

MANAGEMENT OF BRINJAL SHOOT AND FRUIT BORER USING SELECTED BOTANICALS

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Abstract

The study was conducted to evaluate the effect of botanicals namely neem leaf extract, neem oil, mahogany oil, mahogany oil + mahogany cake, garlic extract, tobacco leaf extract along with an untreated control to manage brinjal shoot and fruit borer (BSFB). The percent shoot infestation reduction over control was the highest in mahogany oil + mahogany cake treated plot resulting 62.39%, 64.44%, 67.86% and 71.05% reduction at vegetative stage and early, mid and late fruiting stage, respectively. The same treatment provided the highest fruit infestation reduction over control resulting 86.70%, 85.08% and 85.50% reduction at early, mid and late fruiting stage, respectively. The lowest number of larvae per infested shoot was recorded 1.10 and 1.08 in the same treatment at early and mid fruiting stage, respectively but not at vegetative stage and late fruiting stages. The number of larvae per infested fruit was similarly lowest having 1.50, 1.06 and 1.07 at early, mid and late fruiting stage, respectively using the same approach. The maximum yield (35.82 t ha⁻¹) was achieved in the mahogany oil + mahogany cake treated plot with the highest benefit cost ratio (2.35).

Keywords: *Leucinode sorbonalis*, neem, mahogany, garlic, tobacco, extracts, oils, cake.

Introduction

Brinjal (*Solanum melongena* L.) is one of the most popular vegetables in South and South-East Asia (Thapa, 2010) having hot-wet climate (Hanson *et al.*, 2006) and other parts of the world (Nonnecke, 1989). The cultivation of brinjal is more than 16.00 lakh producing around 50 million tons throughout the world (FAO, 2012). The higher yield and longer fruiting and harvesting period lure the farmer on eggplant production (Ghimire *et al.*, 2007). In Bangladesh it covers about 15% of the total vegetable area of the country producing 1.6 million tons annually. The production of brinjal is 60-65 t ha⁻¹ (BARI, 2005) which is not satisfactory to meet up the growing demand of vegetables. The production of brinjal is affected severely by different insect pests from seedling to fruiting stage (Latif *et al.*, 2009). Brinjal shoot and fruit borer (*Leucinodes*

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orbonalis, Guenee) is the most destructive insect pest of brinjal in Bangladesh which caused 31-86% fruit damage (Alam *et al.*, 2003) reaching up to 90% (Rahman, 1997). It also reduces the content of vitamin C in fruit up to 80 percent (Sharma, 2001). Farmers of Bangladesh as well as of other Asian countries in most cases solely depend on insecticides for the management of this pest. Such dependence on insecticides has created many problems such as very frequent application of insecticides (up to 140 times in a season in Jessore), excessive residues on marketed vegetables that concerns general consumer's health and the environment, pesticide resistance, trade implications, poisoning, hazards to non-target organisms, increased production costs etc. (Alam *et al.*, 2003; Pedigo, 2002).

Now-a-days, emphasis is given on the use of plant extracts as biopesticides in insect control measures (Singh *et al.*, 2007; Gupta and Raghuraman, 2004; Oerke, 2006; Gokce, 2010). This is because that the use of plant based biopesticides in insect control is non-toxic and safe biodegradable alternatives to the conventional chemical control (Anil and Pandey, 2001; Dolui and Debnath, 2010). So, for ensuring food safety and minimization environmental hazards the present study was undertaken to determine the effectiveness of selected botanicals for the management of brinjal shoot and fruit borer (BSFB).

Materials and Methods

Experimental site and climatic condition

The experiment was conducted in the Field Laboratory of Agrotechnology Discipline, Khulna University, Khulna (22°47'57.84"N, 89°31'53.48"E), Bangladesh during December 2013 to June 2014. The experimental site was characterized by moderately high temperature and heavy rainfall during *kharif* season (April-October) and scanty rainfall with moderately low temperature during *rabi* season (November-March).

Raising of seedlings and transplanting

The seed of local brinjal variety named Makra was collected from local market Gollamari and raised as seedling in germplasm centre of Khulna University. Brinjal seedling was raised in seedbed of 3m×1m size. Weeding, mulching and irrigation were done when required. The experiment was laid out in the Randomized Complete Block Design (RCBD) with three replications. The entire experimental plot was divided into 3 blocks each containing 7 units plots. Totally there were 21 unit plots. The treatments were randomly assigned to each unit plot so as to allot one treatment combination once in each block. The unit plots were 3m×2m in size with 75 cm distance between the blocks and 50 cm between the unit plots. Each plot was contained 16 plants. Organic amendments and chemical

fertilizers were applied in the field as recommended by Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (Anon., 2005). Healthy seedlings were uprooted from the seedbed and were transplanted in the experimental plots during late afternoon on December, 2013. Immediately after planting, the seedlings were watered. Seedlings were also planted around the experimental area for gap filling and to check the border effect.

Preparation of neem leaf extract

Fresh leaves of *Azadirachata indica* (Neem) were collected from the plants at the Khulna University campus. Then the collected leaves were dried in shade and were ground with a domestic grinder. Fifty grams (50g) of the ground leaves were added with water and left overnight to make 1000 ml solution. The mixture was then filtered and the filtrate poured into a flat bottom flask as stock for the field spraying five grams of wheel powder was added to increase its adhesiveness (Murugesam and Muruges, 2009).

Preparation of garlic extract

Bulbs of garlic were brought from the market, 30 g of garlic bulbs were chopped into pieces using knife and such material was ground thoroughly, mixed with 50 ml of water and the ground mixture was soaked in little quantity of water over night and squeezed through muslin cloth and the volume was made up to 1 liter to get 3 per cent extract five grams of wheel powder was added to increase its adhesiveness (Murugesam and Muruges, 2009).

Preparation of tobacco leaf extract

Tobacco leaves were brought from the market, 30 g of tobacco leaves were chopped into pieces and such material was ground thoroughly in mixed with 50 ml of water and the ground mixture was soaked in little quantity of water over night and squeezed through muslin cloth and the volume was made up to 1 liter to get 3 per cent extract five gram of wheel powder was added to increase its adhesiveness (Murugesam and Muruges, 2009).

The neem oil, mahogany oil and mahogany cake were purchased from the local market of Khulna.

Treatment application

The treatments namely Untreated control (only water), Neem leaf extract (@ 50 g l⁻¹ water), Neem oil (@ 40 ml l⁻¹ water), Mahogany oil (@ 40 ml l⁻¹ water), Mahogany oil + Mahogany cake (oil (@ 40 ml l⁻¹ water + cake @ 250 kg ha⁻¹), Garlic extract (@ 50 g l⁻¹ water) and Tobacco leaf extract (@ 50 g l⁻¹ water) were applied as foliar sprays starting after 20 days of transplanting and repeated

subsequently at 7 days interval and mahogany cake was applied in the plot and incorporated with soil. Care was taken to avoid drifting of treatment to neighbouring plots. No pest control technique was applied in untreated control plots. However, an equal volume of water, which was used for other plots, was sprayed at 7 days intervals. After transplanting of seedlings, various intercultural operations were accomplished for better growth and development of the plants.

Harvesting and data collection

Harvesting of fruits was started at 60 days after transplanting and continued up to 150 days after transplanting with an interval of 7 days. Harvesting was usually done manually. In order to know the effects of the treatments on controlling BSFB. Data were collected on total numbers of shoot, total numbers of infested shoot, percentage of shoots damage, percentage reduction of shoots infestation, numbers of larvae per infested shoot, total numbers of fruits, percentage of fruits damage, percentage reduction of fruits infestation, numbers of larvae per infested fruits, cost of production, gross return and benefit cost ratio (BCR).

Data analysis

Data were analyzed by using MSTAT-C software for analysis of variance. ANOVA was made by F variance test and the pair comparisons were performed by Duncan's Multiple Range Test (DMRT).

Results and Discussion

The percent shoot infestation reduction over control by brinjal shoot and fruit borer (BSFB) in different stages was statistically significant (Table 1). Among the seven treatments the highest percent shoot infestation reduction over control was observed in mahogany oil + mahogany cake (62.39%) treated plot and the lowest in the mahogany oil (25.93%) treated plot at vegetative stage. At early fruiting stage, the highest (64.44%) percent shoot infestation reduction over control was found in mahogany oil + mahogany cake and the lowest in the garlic extract treated plot (28.60%). Whereas, at the mid fruiting stage, the percent shoot infestation reduction over control was the highest (67.86%) in mahogany oil + mahogany cake and the lowest (31.82%) in garlic extract sprayed fields. Finally at late fruiting stage, the highest percent shoot infestation reduction over control (71.05%) was recorded from mahogany oil + mahogany cake and the lowest (27.63%) in the garlic extract applied plot.

From the result, it was revealed that at all the growth stages of brinjal percent shoot infestation reduction over control was the highest in mahogany oil + mahogany cake and the lowest in the garlic extract. Botanicals are more advantageous over insecticides (Prakash *et al.*, 2008), as they fit well in IPM.

The safer plant products are useful in developing sound pest management strategies (Gupta and Singh, 2002). Among the plant extract treatments, more protection of shoot over control was found from neem leaf extract (92.5%) followed by tobacco leaf extract (84.4%) and mahogany seed extract (60.40%) (Ashadul *et al.*, 2014). Dutta *et al.* (2011) found that simultaneous application of trap and neem extract afforded 79.24% protection against shoot damage.

Table 1. Percent shoot infestation reduction over control at different stages

Treatments	Vegetative stage (30-60 DAT) (%)	Early fruiting stage (60-90 DAT) (%)	Mid fruiting stage (90-120 DAT) (%)	Late fruiting stage (120-150 DAT) (%)
Control	0.00c	0.00f	0.00d	0.00e
Neem leaf extract	40.00ab	32.33de	42.00bc	42.11c
Neem oil	59.26a	55.67ab	65.38a	64.85ab
Mahogany oil	25.93b	40.37cd	39.58bc	37.28cd
Mahogany oil + Mahogany cake	62.39a	64.44a	67.86a	71.05a
Garlic extract	27.78b	28.60e	31.82c	27.63d
Tobacco leaf extract	40.74ab	46.97bc	45.00b	56.58b
Level of significance	**	**	**	**
CV (%)	26.74	10.05	9.97	13.33

DAT= Days After Transplanting; **= Significant at 1% level; CV= Coefficient of Variation.

Means followed by common letter(s) in a column do not differ significantly by DMRT.

The percent fruit infestation reduction over control at different stages was statistically significant (Table 2). Percent fruit infestation reduction over control was the highest in mahogany oil + mahogany cake (86.70%, 85.08% and 85.50%) at early, mid and late fruiting stage, respectively. The lowest percent of fruit infestation reduction over control was found in garlic extract (17.40%, 9.06% and 9.80%) at early, mid and late fruiting stage, respectively. It was recommended that innovative methods of application, proper timing and aqueous neem seed extract can be other alternative or supplement to synthetic insecticide for the management of vegetable pests by poor farmers (Owusu-Ansah *et al.*, 2001). Among the plant extract treatments, more protection of fruit over control was found from neem leaf extract (93.30%) followed by tobacco leaf extract (84.30%) and mahogany seed extract (73.00%) (Ashadul *et al.*, 2014). Application of trap and neem extract afforded 47.70% protection against fruit damage (Dutta *et al.*, 2011).

Table 2. Percent fruit infestation reduction over control at different stages

Treatments	Early fruiting stage (60-90 DAT) (%)	Mid fruiting stage (90-120 DAT) (%)	Late fruiting stage (120-150 DAT) (%)
Control	0.00g	0.00e	0.00g
Neem leaf extract	43.90d	41.10bc	38.90d
Neem oil	71.90b	44.30b	69.50b
Mahogany oil	31.50e	25.60cd	25.90e
Mahogany oil + Mahogany cake	86.70a	85.80a	85.50a
Garlic extract	17.40f	9.06de	9.80f
Tobacco leaf extract	57.40c	58.20b	58.70c
Level of significance	**	**	**
CV (%)	5.45	16.29	7.73

DAT= Days After Transplanting; **= Significant at 1% level; CV= Coefficient of Variation.

Means followed by common letter(s) in a column do not differ significantly by DMRT.

Number of larvae in infested shoot and fruit at different stages was statistically significant (Table 3). The highest number of larvae per infested shoot was recorded (3.10) in the control and the lowest (1.00) in neem oil which was statistically similar to mahogany oil + mahogany cake (1.09). Mean number of larvae per infested shoot at early fruiting stage was recorded the lowest in mahogany oil + mahogany cake (1.10) preceded by neem oil (1.40) and the highest was recorded from the control (2.50). The mean number of larvae per infested shoot at mid fruiting stage was the highest in control (2.50) and the lowest in mahogany oil + mahogany cake (1.08). Mean number of larvae per infested shoot at late fruiting stage was found the highest (2.30) in control and the lowest (1.07), in mahogany oil + mahogany cake. Mean number of larvae per infested fruit plant at early fruiting stage was observed the highest in the control (3.20) and the lowest in mahogany oil + mahogany cake (1.06). Mean number of larvae per infested fruit plant at mid fruiting stage was the highest in the control (3.20) and the lowest in mahogany oil + mahogany cake (1.06). Mean number of larvae per infested fruit plant at late fruiting stage was the highest in the control (3.20) and the lowest in mahogany oil + mahogany cake (1.07) followed by neem oil (1.10).

Table 3. Mean number of larvae per infested shoot and per infested fruit at different stages

Treatments	Mean number of larvae per infested shoot				Mean number of larvae per infested fruit		
	Vegetative stage (30-60DAT)	Early fruiting stage (60-90 DAT)	Mid fruiting stage (90-120 DAT)	Late fruiting stage (120-150 DAT)	Early fruiting stage (60-90 DAT)	Mid fruiting stage (90-120 DAT)	Late fruiting stage (120-150 DAT)
Control	3.10a	2.50a	2.50a	2.30a	3.80a	3.20a	3.20a
Neem leaf extract	1.70bc	2.10ab	2.00a	1.90a	1.90c	1.50bc	1.40bc
Neem oil	1.00c	1.40c	1.30b	1.20b	1.70c	1.30bc	1.10c
Mahogany oil	2.30b	2.40a	2.20a	2.10a	1.80c	1.90b	1.80b
Mahogany oil + Mahogany cake	1.09c	1.10c	1.08b	1.07b	1.50c	1.06c	1.07c
Garlic extract	2.20b	2.30a	2.10a	2.00a	2.40b	1.90b	1.60bc
Tobacco leaf extract	1.30c	1.50bc	1.30b	1.00b	1.50c	1.30bc	1.20bc
LS	**	**	**	**	**	**	**
CV (%)	14.46	12.04	10.51	10.59	10.28	15.010	13.52

DAT= Days After Transplanting; LS= Level of Significance; **= Significant at 1% level
CV= Coefficient of Variation.

Means followed by common letter(s) in a column do not differ significantly by DMRT.

The yield per plot showed significant variation among the treatments (Table 4). The yield was highest (35.82t ha⁻¹) when mahogany oil + mahogany cake was applied which was statistically identical with tobacco leaf extract (33.97t ha⁻¹) treated field plot. Increased yield over control was highest in mahogany oil + mahogany cake (19.34 t ha⁻¹) treatment and the lowest was in garlic extract treated plot (5.34 t ha⁻¹).

According to the procedure of Ramakrishna and Palled (2005), cost and return analysis in details was done and has been shown in Table 5. Material, non-material and overhead cost were recorded for all treatments on unit plot basis and calculated per hectare. The total cost of production ranged between 291666 Tk. and 491666 Tkha⁻¹. The highest cost of production was found in neem oil (491666 Tkha⁻¹) followed by tobacco leaf extract (411666) and the lowest was found in the control (291666Tkha⁻¹). The range between the gross return was

264000 Tk to 949700 Tkha⁻¹. The treatment mahogany oil + mahogany cake gave the highest net return of Tk. 949700 followed by tobacco leaf extract of Tk. 888200 and the lowest was found in control (264000 Tkha⁻¹). The maximum benefit cost ratio was found (2.35) in the mahogany oil + mahogany cake which was statistically similar with tobacco leaf extract (2.16) and the minimum was in untreated control (0.91) plot.

Considering the economic return per hectare, this experiment demonstrated that application of mahogany oil + mahogany cake was found more appropriate for brinjal production for controlling brinjal shoot and fruit borer.

Table 4. Effect of selected botanicals on brinjal yield

Treatments	Yield (t ha ⁻¹)	Increased yield over control (t ha ⁻¹)
Control	16.48d	0.00d
Neem leaf extract	25.32bc	8.84bc
Neem oil	30.85ab	14.37ab
Mahogany oil	23.32cd	6.84cd
Mahogany oil + Mahogany cake	35.82a	19.34a
Garlic extract	21.82cd	5.34cd
Tobacco leaf extract	33.97a	17.49a
Level of significance	**	**
CV (%)	11.17	22.18

**= Significant at 1% level; CV= Coefficient of Variation.

Means followed by common letter(s) in a column do not differ significantly by DMRT.

Table 5. Benefit Cost Ratio of brinjal production

Treatments	Gross return (Tkha ⁻¹)	Total cost of production (Tkha ⁻¹)	Benefit cost ratio(BCR)
Control	264000g	291666	0.910c
Neem leaf extract	573200d	341666	1.68b
Neem oil	808500c	491666	1.64b
Mahogany oil	448200e	391666	1.14c
Mahogany oil + Mahogany cake	949700a	403333	2.35a
Garlic extract	403200f	361666	1.11c
Tobacco leaf extract.	888200b	411666	2.16a
Level of significance	**	NS	**
CV (%)	11.47	-	12.19

**= Significant at 1% level; NS= Non Significant; CV= Coefficient of Variation.

Means followed by common letter(s) in a column do not differ significantly by DMRT

Conclusion

The findings of the present study revealed that mahogany oil + mahogany cake, was proved to be highly effective against BSFB and cost effective. So, brinjal growers may be motivated to apply mahogany (oil + cake) for better management of brinjal shoot and fruit borer (BSFB) to ensure maximum yield.

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