

## Research Article



# Regulatory Efficacy of Novel Insecticides Against Major Pests of Vegetables in Faisalabad, Pakistan

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**Abstract** | *Leucinodes orbonalis* and *Earias vittella*/*Earias insulana* are major devastating pests of our summer vegetables especially brinjal and okra. Six insecticides viz. spinetoram 120 SC, spinosad 240 SC, bifenthrin 10 EC, cypermethrin 10 EC, chlorantraniliprol 20 SC and flubendiamide 480 SC were applied on brinjal and okra against these pests with five replications. Data was recorded after 24 hrs. 72 hrs. 7 and 10 days after spray application. Results indicated that all the insecticides gave significant control of both pests up to 72 hrs. of spray application. After this pest population was started to increase. In *L. orbonalis* spinetoram 120 SC (70 ml) gave maximum reduction 85.60 % followed by spinetoram 120 SC (50 ml) flubendiamide 480 SC and spinetoram 120 SC (40 ml) having 81.85, 65.25 and 63.57 %, respectively after 72 hrs of application. In *E. vittella*/*E. insulana* Spinetoram 120 SC (70 ml), Spinetoram 120 SC (50 ml), Spinosad 240 SC and Flubendiamide 480 SC gave maximum reduction 76.93, 74.32, 71.01 and 69.26 %, respectively. Bifenthrin 10 EC and cypermethrin 10 EC were least effective against both pests at all intervals and after 7 and 10 days intervals pests population was increased as compared to the previous intervals.

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**Keywords** | *Leucinodes orbonalis*, *Earias vittella*/*Earias insulana*, Vegetables, Insecticides, Faisalabad

## Introduction

Brinjal, *Solanum melongena* L and Okra, *Abelmoschus esculentus* L are one of the most common and extensively grown vegetables in Pakistan (Javed et al., 2009). A number of phytophagous insects are attacked during different growth stages (Kumar and Singh, 2006; Gulati, 2004) but brinjal shoot and fruit borer (BSFB) (*Leucinodes orbonalis*) on brinjal (Latif et al., 2009a) and the spotted bollworms (*Earias vittella* F and *Earias insulana* B) on okra are the most damaging pests (Aziz et al., 2011). *Leucinodes orbonalis* is the most important pest of brinjal in Asia, especially in Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Bangladesh, Thailand, Philippines, Cambodia, Vietnam (AVRDC, 1994), Africa and South-East Asia (CABI,

2007). Hot and humid areas climate are favorable for its distribution and prevalence (Srinivasan, 2009). It causes 85-90 % damage in Asia (Thapa, 2010; Misra, 2008; Jagginavar et al., 2009). The larvae bore into tender shoots at the vegetative, flowering and fruiting stage (CABI, 2007). At flowering stage flowers fail to become fruits (Alam et al., 2006), at vegetative stage causes withering and drooping of young leaves and shoots (AVRDC, 1998). At fruit setting larvae, after hatching, bore inside and close the minute entrance hole by the excreta of the larvae (Alam et al., 2006) and results in fruit rotting (Neupane, 2001), lowering of vitamin C contents up to 80 % (Sharma, 2002), making it unfit for human consumption (Baral et al., 2006). A larva on average can damage 4 to 7 fruits during its life span (Jayaraj and Man-

isegaran, 2010). *Earias* spp. feed rigorously at vegetative and fruiting stages on okra, resulting in a serious decline in quality and quantity of the produce. It has highly reproductive damage potential that is why their control on okra has become a difficult task day by day. Farmers largely depend upon the use of synthetic insecticides for the control of this serious pest. Vegetables like okra and brinjal are consumed fresh in Pakistan, so the use of highly toxic chemicals on these vegetables is not desirable. *Earias* spp. can be controlled by the synthetic insecticides to some extent but an indiscriminate use of insecticides for the control of this pest has created many problems like insecticides resistance, human health hazards, negatively affects the natural enemies, reappearance of minor pests and ecological pollution (Mahapatro and Gupta, 1998). The present study was initiated to check the efficacy of different novel insecticides as there are many sprays are practiced on these vegetables at farmer fields. In order to reduce the number of sprays, persistency of different insecticides was tested.

## Materials and Methods

Eight treatments were applied *viz.* spinetoram 120 SC (70 ml), spinetoram 120 SC (50 ml), spinetoram 120 SC (40 ml), spinosad 240 SC (40 ml), bifenthrin 10 EC (250 ml), cypermethrin 10 EC (400 ml), chlorantraniliprol 20 SC (40 ml) and flubendiamide 480 SC (50 ml) including control on two major economic important pests i.e. Okra spotted bollworm and Brinjal fruit and shoot borer. 100-120 liters water per acre was used for the above mentioned doses. Experiment was laid out under Randomized Complete Block Design (RCBD) with five replications at Nursery Area of Horticultural Research Institute, AARI, Faisalabad, during 2008-09. Hand knapsack sprayer was used to spray the insecticides. The treatments were applied when the pest population was above ETL. The data in this regard was recorded just before spray and then after 72 hrs., 7 and 10 days interval by observing all healthy and infested fruits of 15 randomly selected plants. On the basis of pretreatment infestation the reduction in fruit infestation was calculated. Percent increase and decrease in population infestation of different intervals was computed on the basis of pretreatment population and data so obtained were statistically analysed by using Statistix 8.1. Percent larval mortality was corrected by "Abbott's formula" (Abbott, 1925).

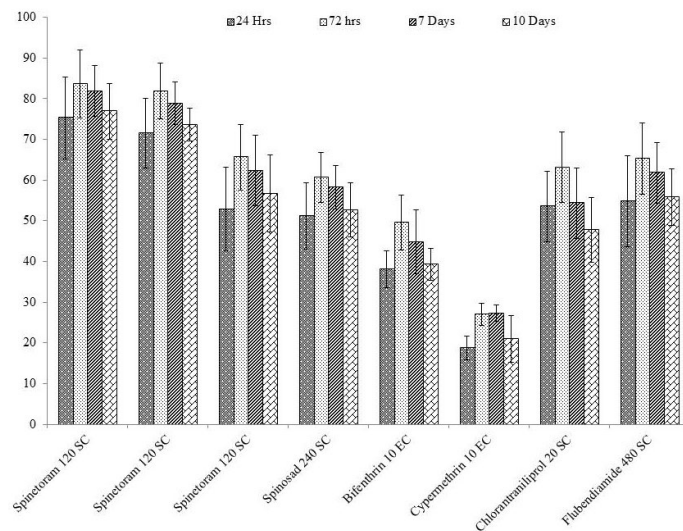
$$\text{Corrected Mortality} = \frac{PT - PC}{100 - PC} \times 100$$

Where; PT = Percent Treatment Mortality PC = Percent Check Mortality.

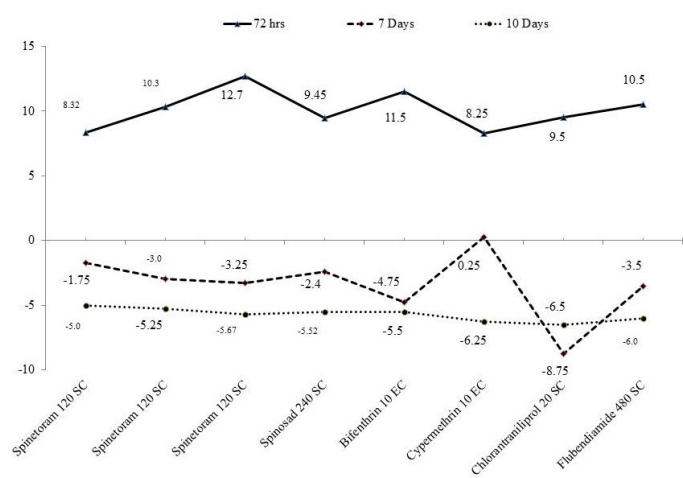
## Results and Discussion

Spinetoram 120 SC (70 ml) and spinetoram 120 SC (50 ml) gave maximum reduction in brinjal fruit and shoot borer infestation (83.27 and 79.52 %) followed by spinetoram 120 SC (40 ml), spinosad 240 SC, bifenthrin 10 EC, chlorantraniliprol 20 SC and flubendiamide 480 SC having 60.87, 57.13, 46.00, 60.55 and 62.75 % reduction, respectively (Figure 1). Cypermethrin 10 EC showed least population reduction 25.75 % after 24 hrs. of spray. After 72 hrs of spray application spinetoram 120 SC (70 ml) gave maximum reduction 85.60 % followed by spinetoram 120 SC (50 ml) flubendiamide 480 SC and spinetoram 120 SC (40 ml) having 81.85, 65.25 and 63.57 %, respectively. Cypermethrin 10 EC showed minimum reduction 27.00 %. After 7 days of application spinetoram 120 SC (70 ml) and spinetoram 120 SC (50 ml) gave maximum reduction (81.85 and 78.85 %) followed by spinetoram 120 SC (40 ml) and flubendiamide 480 SC having 62.32 and 61.75 %, respectively. After 10 days of application spinetoram 120 SC (70 ml) and spinetoram 120 SC (50 ml) gave maximum reduction (76.85 and 73.60 %) followed by spinetoram 120 SC (40 ml) and flubendiamide 480 SC having 56.65 and 55.75 %, respectively. Cypermethrin 10 EC showed minimum reduction 21.00 %. Percent reduction increased and population of pest decreased upto 72 hrs of spray but population started to increase at 7 and 10 days intervals. Figure 2 shows that at 72 hrs interval all the insecticides significantly decreased the insect population. Where increase in population reduction at 72 hrs interval for the bifenthrin 10 EC, flubendiamide 480 SC and spinetoram 120 SC (50 ml) was maximum 11.5, 10.5 and 10.3 %, respectively, as compared to the previous interval. At 7 day of interval insect population increased at all treatments only Cypermethrin 10 EC decreased the infestation upto 0.25 % as compared to the previous interval. Percent pest population was also increased at 10 days interval for all the insecticides as compared to the previous interval.

Figure 3 shows that after 24 hrs of application spinetoram 120 SC (50 ml) gave maximum reduction in the population of okra spotted bollworm 60.10 % and it at par with spinetoram 120 SC (70 ml), spinosad 240 SC chlorantraniliprol 20 SC and flubendiamide 480 SC



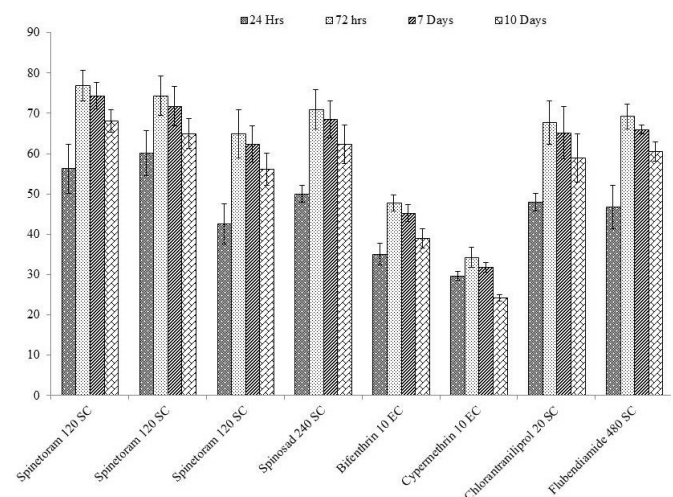
**Figure 1:** Percent population reduction of brinjal fruit and shoot borer at different intervals.



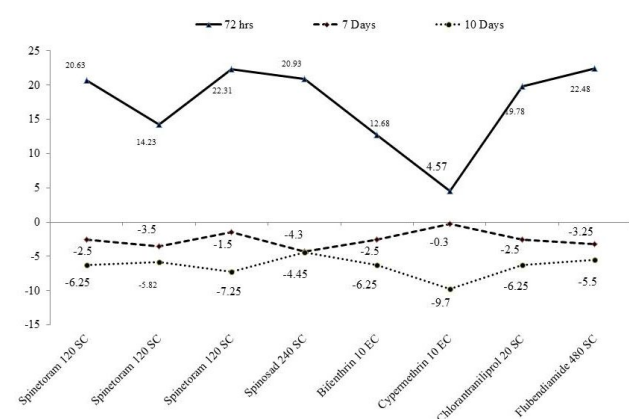
**Figure 2:** Percent population increase and decrease in comparison with previous interval.

having 56.30, 50.17, 47.91 and 46.78 % reduction, respectively. Bifenthrin 10 EC and cypermethrin 10 EC showed minimum population reduction 35.06 and 29.68 %, respectively. After 72 hrs of application spinetoram 120 SC (70 ml), spinetoram 120 SC (50 ml), spinosad 240 SC and flubendiamide 480 SC gave maximum reduction 76.93, 74.32, 71.01 and 69.26 %, respectively and is at par with chlorantraniliprol 20 SC and spinetoram 120 SC (40 ml) having 67.69 and 64.89 %, respectively. After 7 days of application spinetoram 120 SC (70 ml), spinetoram 120 SC (50 ml), spinosad 240 SC flubendiamide 480 SC and chlorantraniliprol 20 SC gave maximum reduction 74.43, 71.82, 68.51, 66.02 and 65.19 %, respectively and is at par with and spinetoram 120 SC (40 ml) having 62.40 % reduction. Whereas after 10 days of application spinetoram 120 SC (70 ml), spinetoram 120 SC (50 ml), spinosad 240 SC, flubendiamide 480 SC and chlorantraniliprol 20 SC

gave maximum reduction 68.18, 65.00, 62.26, 60.51 and 58.94 %, respectively and is at par with and spinetoram 120 SC (40 ml) having 56.14 % reduction. Cypermethrin 10 EC showed minimum reduction 24.25 %. Percent reduction increased and population of pest decreased upto 72 hrs of spray but population started to increase at 7 and 10 days intervals. Figure 4 shows that at 72 hrs interval all the insecticides significantly decreased the insect population. Where increase in population reduction at 72 hrs interval for the flubendiamide 480 SC and spinetoram 120 SC (40 ml), spinosad 240 SC and spinetoram 120 SC (70 ml) was maximum 22.48, 22.31, 20.93 and 20.63 %, respectively, as compared to the previous interval. Percent pest population was increased at 7 and 10 days interval for all the insecticides as compared to the previous interval as shown in Figure 4.



**Figure 3:** Percent population reduction of okra spotted bollworm at different intervals.



**Figure 4:** Percent population increase and decrease in comparison with previous interval.

Our results are in accordance with several scientists where Shah et al. (2012) found that emamectin benzoate (Timer 1.9EC) and flubendiamide (Belt 48 SC) were promising insecticides to lower brinjal fruit



and shoot borer and gave high fruit production. **Latif et al. (2010)** found that flubendiamide (Belt 48SC) and carbosulfan gave maximum larval mortality of BSFB in laboratory and field trials, where in the field trials they reduced BSFB infestation 70 and 80%, respectively. Pareet (26) also found spinosad (Tracer 240SC) and emamectin benzoate (Timer 1.9EC) to be effective up to last harvest in reducing brinjal fruit borer damage. **Deshmukh and Bhamare (2006)**, **Adiroubane and Raghuraman (2008)**; **Aprana and Dethé (2012)** found that spinosad (Tracer 240SC) was effective in reducing BSFB infestation on brinjal crop. **Hamdy and Sayad (2012)** found the highest decrease in infestation of *Helicoverpa armigera* on tomato was achieved with spinetoram (Delegate 25WG) on tomato crop and pink bollworm on cotton crop without disturbing natural enemies fauna, **Sabry et al. (2014)**. **Kodandaram et al. (2010)** also stated that chlorantraniliprol was effective against BSFB. **Mahmood et al. (2014)** tested several chemicals but cypermethrin showed least efficacy with 11.96% reduction after 24 hrs. 59.44% on 4<sup>th</sup> day and 50.25% reduction in pest population on 7<sup>th</sup> day. According to the **Iqbal et al. (2014)** who stated that cypermethrin gave more than 90 % reduction against spotted bollworm on cotton. These results are not in agreement with our results where cypermethrin provided only less than 40 % reduction after 7 days of application.

## Conclusions and Recommendations

It is concluded that spinetoram 120 SC (70 ml) and spinetoram 120 SC (50 ml) gave the best control against these pests. But spinetoram 120 SC (50 ml) is economically suitable for farmers. All these chemicals provided maximum persistence up to 72 hrs of application. So repeated spray application is needed after 3<sup>rd</sup> day of 1<sup>st</sup> application to break the life cycle of these pests.

## Author's Contribution

**Muhammad Latif:** Perceived steered the research and is the corresponding author.

**Muneer Abbas:** Conducted the research and wrote the article.

**Faisal Hafeez:** Analysed and provide technical inputs in each and every step.

**Dilbar Hussain:** Proof read and incorporated the comments.

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