



A survey of insecticide application in Virudhunagar District, Rajapalayam Taluk

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Abstract

Surveys of those applying insecticides in Virudhunagar district, Rajapalayam taluk was made as an initial part of a research to select the adopt insecticide. The survey considered those growing cotton, groundnuts, bananas and various other crops. The main insecticide used by the farmers was monocrotophos and Chlopyriphos. The survey showed that monocrotophos is the most widely used insecticide. The need for further research is stressed.

Keywords: Insecticide, Monocrotophos, Farmer, Virudhunagar

Introduction

Increasing population and urbanization especially in a developing country like India, necessitates producing more and more food. Crops require fertile soil to grow. For agriculture, soil serves as a medium of entry to the nutrients. Continuous agricultural activity tends to decrease the soil fertility. Worldwide consumption of pesticides has reached 2.6 million metric tons. Of this, 85% is used in agriculture (Aspelin 1997).

Pesticides are widely used throughout the world in agricultural land to protect crops and in public health to control diseases (Manoj & Ashok 2007). Pesticides pollution, the outcome of 21th century agricultural practices is never normally imagined by the modern man. The abundant use of pesticides and chemical fertilizers presented not only health problems to farmers and to farmers domesticated animals also exerted eco-imbalance causing global concern. Scientists,

natural lovers, several non-governmental organizations and government sectors throughout the world, who have realized these dangerous hazards, promoted the global awareness about pesticides usage.

Yet more research is needed. This research paper is the outcome of Virudhunagar district, Rajapalayam taluk level field survey. The paper attempts to analyze the insecticides selection for agricultural activity.

Materials and Methods

The present research is survey the insecticides usage in among the Virudhunagar district, Rajapalayam taluk. Since the data was collected through personal contact the pesticides shop keepers, sales mans and farmers of Virudhunagar district. Self designed questionnaire was administered for evaluating the insecticides selection by farmers.

Result

Table: 1 A sample data collection questioner form

Name	
Sex	Male [] Female []
Age	
Marital status	Single [] Married []
Educational status	SSLC [] HSC [] Others []
Address	
Name of major insecticide handled	1. Chlopyriphos [] 2. Monocrotophos [] 3. Cartap hydrochloride [] 4. Others []

Table: 2 Interviews and status of the persons in the Virudhunagar District, Rajapalayam taluk

Status of persons interviewed	Percentage
Fertilizers shop	87
Sales man	5
Farmers	8

Table: 2 Major insecticides handled

Parameter	Answer	Percentage
Name of major insecticide handled	Monocrotophos	91

Discussion

The objective of the current study was to investigate the major insecticide used in Virudhunagar district, Rajapalayam taluk. Data was collected on the basis of answers to questionnaire and that was analyzed. Chemical control of pests was the main strategy in the area considered (98% exclusively synthetic pesticides). Public concern over food materials safety issues, particularly insecticides residues on food and fruits, has been well documented in consumer based research studies.

Our study results reveal several important findings. First, farmers of Virudhunagar district, Rajapalayam taluk area mostly used the monocrotophos insecticides. Second, in the time of our research farmers plated the cotton plants so only monocrotophos comes first in choice. The present study indicates that cotton growers in the Rajapalayam taluk mostly depended the monocrotophos for control the pests. In addition, more and more investigations are needed to evaluate potential toxic effects of the most common insecticides, fungicides, pesticides used to control vegetable pests.

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