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## New Synthetic and Bio-insecticides Against Maize Stem Borer, *Chilo partellus* (Swinhoe) on Golden Maize

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**Abstract:** Experiment was laid out for evaluating some new synthetic and bio-insecticides viz., Imicon 25WP + Neem seed kernel extract (imidacloprid + *Azadirachta indica* A. Juss.), Agree 50WP (*Bacillus thuringiensis*), Pride 25WP (buprofezin), Taofos 25EC (quinalphos), and Digital 20EC (fenpropathrin) against maize borer *Chilo partellus* Swinhoe. All the test insecticides were found to have significant effect on borer infestation, but lower per cent infestation (15.55%) of maize borer with Taofos 25EC (quinalphos) at 1000 ml/ac would suggest this insecticide to be more toxic to the pest compared with the others.

**Key words:** Efficiency, *Chilo partellus*, maize, imidacloprid, *Azadirachta indica*, *Bacillus thuringiensis*, buprofezin, quinalphos, fenpropathrin

### Introduction

Maize, *Zea mays* L. is the third major crop in the world and is used as a staple food. It has both domestic and industrial usage. It is the most important ingredient of cattle fodder and poultry feed (Chaudhary, 1983). Several pests attack the crop among which maize stem borer, *Chilo partellus* (Swinhoe) (Singh *et al.*, 1993) is the most destructive one. Almost 75% damage of the crop occurs due to attack of maize stem borer (Latif *et al.*, 1960). So, keeping in view the importance of crop and pest problem, the present project is designed to study the efficiency of some new synthetic insecticides (imidacloprid, buprofezin, fenpropathrin, quinalphos) and bio-insecticides (Neem Seed Kernel Extract and *Bacillus thuringiensis*) against maize stem borer, *Chilo partellus* Swinhoe.

### Materials and Methods

The insecticides used in the experiment and their respective doses are mentioned in Table 1. The experiment was conducted at Entomological Research Area, University of Agriculture, Faisalabad. Six treatments including a control were used in Randomized Complete Block Design. The percentage infestations of maize borer were recorded using different visible symptoms of whorl damage (Van den Berg *et al.*, 1997) and dead hearts (Ajala and Saxena, 1994) selecting 15 plants randomly from each treatment. The data was recorded 24 hours before 1st treatment, then 7 and 14 days after each treatment. At the end of season, the data, however, were presented in the form of mean values and analyzed statistically by applying Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) technique and

Duncan's Multiple Range Test (DMRT) after Steel and Torrie (1980). The comparative efficacy of the test insecticides was considered to be an indirect reflection of the percent infestation of maize borer *Chilo partellus* Swinhoe.

### Results and Discussion

The data on the comparison of the mean percent infestation for maize borer *Chilo partellus* Swinhoe in different treatments are presented in Table 2.

Per cent infestation for the maize borer *Chilo partellus* Swinhoe in different treatments revealed that all of the test insecticides were found to be statistically equi-effective with minor differences on the basis of over all as well as individual sprays but all these treatments differed statistically from check. On numerical basis, however, lower per cent infestation (15.55%) for maize borer in T<sub>4</sub> Taofos 25EC (quinalphos) at 1000 ml/ac would suggest this insecticide to be more toxic to the pest compared with the others.

The present findings are not comparable with some of the previous workers, Singh *et al.* (1985) who suggested that carbaryl was the most effective ovicide, Singh *et al.* (1986) referred endosulfan as the most effective and Singh and Marwaha (1996) found that cypermethrin was the most effective against *Chilo partellus* Swinhoe. These findings are in also not agreement with that of Mustea (1981) who tested 11 different compounds and found that Ekalux (quinalphos) was the most effective one and Katti and Verma (1988) who declared that Quinalphos 5G and Endosulfan 4G gave good results only in granule form. The above findings showed that

Table 1: Details of Treatments and Spray Material Used

Treat.	Trade Name	Common Name	Dose (recommended)
T <sub>1</sub>	Imicon 25WP + Neem Seed Kernal Extract	(Imidacloprid + <i>Azadirachta Indica</i> A. Juss)	at 500 gm/ac + 600 ml/ac
T <sub>2</sub>	Agree 50 WP	( <i>Bacillus th-uringiensis</i> )	at 500 gm/ac
T <sub>3</sub>	Pride 25 WP	(buprofezin)	at 600 ml/ac
T <sub>4</sub>	Taofos 25 EC	(quinalphos)	at 1000 ml/ac
T <sub>5</sub>	Digital 25 EC	(fenpropathrin)	at 300 ml/ac
T <sub>6</sub>	Control		

Table 2: Comparison of the mean percent infestation for maize borer in different treatments

Treatments	Percent infestation for maize borer			
	1 <sup>st</sup> Spray	2 <sup>nd</sup> Spray	3 <sup>rd</sup> Spray	Overall
T <sub>1</sub>	25.83b	17.50a	6.67b	16.67b
T <sub>2</sub>	30.00b	15.83a	12.05b	19.44b
T <sub>3</sub>	28.33b	13.34a	9.17b	16.94b
T <sub>4</sub>	30.00b	10.00a	6.67b	15.55b
T <sub>5</sub>	25.00b	12.50a	11.67b	16.39b
T <sub>6</sub>	45.00a	23.33a	37.50a	35.28a

quinalphos is equally effective also in emulsifiable concentrate form as well as granules form.

Thus on numerical basis Taofos 25EC (quinalphos) at 1000 ml/ac appeared to be the most effective in controlling the maize borer infestation.

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