

**Evaluation of insecticides against *Plocaederus ferrugineus* L. and *Helopeltis antonii* Sign attacking *Anacardium occidentale* (Cashew)**

The major insect pests affecting cashew in Sri Lanka are the stem and root borer *Plocaederus ferrugineus* L. (Coleoptera; Cerambycidae) and tea mosquito *Helopeltis antonii* Sign. (Heteroptera: Miridae). Among the lesser serious pests the defoliating caterpillars, *Metantria hyratata* Cramer, and apple and nut borer, *Thylecoptila panrosema* Myrich, leaf miner *Conopomorpha syngamma* Meyr and leaf and blossom webber *Lamida monocusalis* Wlk causes some damage to cashew plants in different degrees of intensity.

The root and stem borer is an internal feeder of cashew, as such its presence is not felt till the damage become serious and the plant shows external symptoms. Thus early detection of the pest is necessary for the application of timely control measures.

The research conducted on chemical control of the borer showed that Ekalux (Quinalphos) 2% solution injection using has given satisfactory results with an average more easily.

It is well known that Quinaiphos has dual action as a contact and stomach poison. Endosulphan injected to the tunnels and Dimethoate solution poured to the tunnels using a tunnel recorded high mortality values. The time of spraying is very important for effective control of tea mosquito.

The selection of pesticide is important, as it should not harm pollinating insects and there should not be harmful residues. Endosulphan 35 EC was Quite effective in controlling first instar nymphs; an exposure of 1.75h completely kill was recorded after 1.5 h. Therefore, the applications of Endosulphan as a high volume spray at the time of emergence of new shoots, panicles and fruitlet set was effective in controlling of *H. antonii*