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Efficacy of some selected botanical pesticides to control major paddy pests

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Insect pest attack is one of the major biotic factor hampering the paddy production in the world including Sri Lanka. A study was carried out to find out the effect of some selected botanical pesticides on controlling major pests in paddy. The organic pesticides used in this experiment were OK (commercial preparation of neem), Garlic (50g)-neem oil (20g) and soap (5g) water (1 liter) mixture, Tobacco leaf extract (100g/1liter water) and an inorganic pesticide choloropyrifos (400 g / l EC). Pest number for BPH and paddy bug and number of symptoms for stem borer and leaf folder were counted continuously at 3rd and 9th day after spraying the chemicals. It was found that there was a significant reduction of pest population among treatments. Commercial preparation of neem (OK), Tobacco extract and Choloropyrifos significantly controlled leaf folder attack and reduced the population of Brown plant hopper and paddy bug. Tobacco extract and chloropyrifos reduced the attack of Yellow stem borer than garlic-neem oil- soap water extract application and similar reduction pattern was also observed in controlling BPH population. Tobacco extract reduced the paddy bug population in the panicle. It is concluded from the experiment that Tobbaco extract and O.K performed well and required frequent application. The garlic neem oil extract control common major pest and could not persist for longer time as recorded in the treatments of tobacco and O.K.

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