



Integrated Pest Management of Guava, Citrus and Mango Fruitflies at Three Districts of Punjab

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ABSTRACT

Fruit fly, *Bactrocera zonata* and *Bactrocera dorsalis* (Diptera: Tephritidae) has endangered the trade of Pakistani fruits in foreign markets. Use of IPM is best way to control fruit fly by avoiding harmful insecticidal spray application in order to save natural enemies and environment. Experiment was conducted in three guava, citrus and mango producing districts of Punjab i.e. Faisalabad, Sargodha, Toba Tek Singh with five treatments. Each experimental unit comprised of 1 ha area. Five treatments viz. A=sanitation, B=MAT, C= protein based baits, D= plant extracts and E= A+B+C+D were used during 2015-16. Data of % infested fallen fruits, total flies/trap, total flies captured/year, % fruit punctures, pupal population, % fruit infestation and market value of fruits was collected at regular intervals. Results indicated that when all the components were applied in a combined way they gave significant reduction of fruit losses. As a result of continuous sanitation practices the fruit fall reduced to 10.24, 7.04, and 8.39 % in guava, citrus and mango orchards, respectively during following year in block E. Population peaks were May-July, July-September and July-August in guava, citrus and mango orchards with maximum population 69.06-70.36, 51.0-58.32 and 37.54-43.92/trap, respectively with TFC (total flies captured) reduced during 2nd year. Plant extracts *Azadirachta indica* and *Citrullus colocynthis* proved better as they reduced pupal population 14.53 and 10.74, 9.87 and 2.85, 7.20 and 2.27 % in guava, citrus and mango orchards, respectively. Similarly, reduced trend was found in % fruit infestation by 19.41 and 10.29, 15.51 and 10.77, 5.84 and 4.80 % in guava, citrus and mango orchards, respectively after 2nd spray. Maximum % reduction of fruit punctures were found as 14.41, 7.17 and 7.32 in guava, citrus and mango orchards, respectively with combined application of all components. Market value (\$) of fruits was maximum in the block having complete IPM package with 15.60, 14.09 and 10.32 % increased value of guava, citrus and mango orchards during following year.

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Authors' Contribution

MA conducted the research and wrote the manuscript. DH designed the experiments and conducted research. MS and AG collected data. SA, NH and AG reviewed the literature.

Key words

Fruitfly, IPM, Fruit orchards, Fruit losses, Market value

INTRODUCTION

Fruit flies are damaging pests in the world, feeding and attacking most of the fruits and vegetables due to their very wide host range, high reproductive potential and adaptability to certain climates. Tephritids fruit flies are big threat to horticulture industry in Pakistan (Ekesi and Billah, 2007) because most of fruit flies are polyphagous attacking several fruits and vegetables including guava, citrus, mango, tomatoes, pepper, cucurbits etc and causing direct and indirect losses. Moreover residues of pesticides used against this pest are threat to export (Sarwar, 2013). Fruit flies are serious pest of guava fruit in Pakistan. Their damaging nature is a big hurdle for the promotion of export of fruits and vegetables by causing direct and indirect

losses. Peach fruit fly, *Bactrocera zonata* (S) and Oriental fruit fly, *Bactrocera dorsalis* (H) are most economically important fruit fly species in fruits (Sarwar, 2014). In Pakistan, the fruit fly complex may cause losses from 20-90% in different areas of the country. They cause heavy losses to fruits at farm level with approx. 200 million US dollars annually (Stonehouse *et al.*, 2002). In Egypt annual losses of peach fruit fly were estimated 190 million €. These are most destructive in mangoes as it causes 50-85% losses and one can lose 100 % of fruits (Nankinga *et al.*, 2014). Female flies lay their eggs in the fruits and the maggots after emergence, eat the pulp leading to secondary infections with bacterial and fungal diseases (White and Elson-Harris, 1994). Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is the best way for proper management of fruit fly such as use of MAT (male annihilation technique), sanitation, protein based baits and plant extracts at regular intervals. MAT with methyl eugenol is a common method of management and a part of IPM (Afzal and Javed, 2001). Methyl eugenol

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is a plant component that is derived from essential oils of 200 plant species from 32 families. This disturbs male/female ratio which consequently produce few progenies (Zaheeruddin, 2007). During last decade new powerful attractants have been developed to make mass trapping more economical (Epsky *et al.*, 1999). This technique is successful for guava, mango and citrus (McQuate *et al.*, 2005). In Spain about 30,000 ha of citrus were treated with mass trapping (Navarro-Llopis *et al.*, 2008). More studies are needed for trap density optimization, shape of trap, pre-harvest placing time and dispensers covering entire growing season because efficacy of dispensers depends upon the climatic conditions. Sanitation, protein baits, plant extracts are more reliable ways to stop reproductive cycle without use of toxic chemicals. Protein baits containing hydrolyzed protein with amino acids or peptides n with amino acids or peptides and insecticide had been used to control several tephritids flies (Moreno *et al.*, 2001; Vargas *et al.*, 2001). In guava crop currently 5-7 sprays and in mango fruits 2-3 sprays are being applied after every 10-150 days. Insecticides application against fruit flies are 10% of total synthetic insecticides applied in Pakistan (Siddiqi *et al.*, 2006). Plant extracts are generally pest specific and relatively harmless to non-target organisms and environment. *Azadirachta indica* and *Colocynthis colocynthis* have repellent effects and used as biopesticide against *B. zonata* and *B. dorsalis* (Singh *et al.*, 2007; Solangi *et al.*, 2011). These act as anti-feedent, repellent and egg laying deterrent. Derivatives of *P. hysterophorus* can be used to control different insects (Datta and Sexena, 2001). Costea and Tardif (2006) reported antifungal and insecticidal effects of *Cascuta* sp. *Nerium oleander* owns antibacterial (Derwic *et al.*, 2010), antifungal and antioxidant activities (Mohadjerani, 2012; Ali *et al.*, 2010).

Objective of the study was to develop a complete IPM package to break reproductive cycle of fruitflies without use of toxic chemicals by using MAT, sanitation, protein based spray and plant extracts alone or in a combination at regular intervals in guava, citrus and mango fruit orchards and to evaluate the effects of different components based on market value of fruits in comparison with conventional farmer's technology.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

Experiment was conducted in three different districts of Punjab *i.e.* Faisalabad, Sargodha, Toba Tek Singh during 2015-16 at farmer fields. Three orchards *i.e.* guava, citrus, mango in each district were selected for the experiment. Each district was considered as a replicate of experiment with six treatments. Each orchard comprised of 1 hectare area having five blocks *viz.* A, B, C, D and E (Table I). In

block A only, sanitation was practiced. Average infested fallen fruits with fruit fly were counted on per plant basis on fortnightly intervals continuously for two years. These fruits were collected and buried at 10"-12" depth in the soil at regular intervals. After fruit burial soil was compressed firmly so that any larvae or adult cannot come out of soil. MAT was applied in block B which involved use of a male lure combined with an insecticide in order to reduce male population of fruit flies. This resulted mating of male population with female flies at low level. Fifteen pet bottle traps/ha were used, manufactured at home. Each trap was treated with 0.5 ml of methyl eugenol (4-allyl-1, 2 dimethoxy benzene-carboxylate) + Spinosad insecticide (3:1) after every 14 days with the help of cotton wicks. Traps were hanged on trees at 1.5-2.0 m height above ground. Data was collected at fortnightly intervals. Adult flies were collected, counted from every trap. Meteorological data of all the districts was collected from Meteorological Department Lahore. Different plant extracts (block C) *viz.* *Azadirachta indica*, *Parthenium hysterophorus*, *Cascuta campestris*, *Nerium oleander* and *Citrullus colocynthis* were tested due to their repellency and larvicidal properties. Different plant parts were dried in oven at 60-70 °C and grinded separately with electric grinder. Each plant was extracted with analytical grade acetone in Soxhlet apparatus. The extracts obtained were stored at 4 °C in separate conical flask. One gram of each crude extract was dissolved in 10 ml acetone. Thus, 100 g crude extracts of each plant was used for preparing 100 ml stock solution. Their effects were assessed by percent fruit infestation and pupal population below the canopy of trees before and 21 days after spray. Pupal population was assessed 6'-8' under guava, 8'-10' under citrus and 10'-12' under mango canopy by sieving the sand upto 6" depth. Application of protein hydrolyzate + malathion 50 EC (95:05) was made in block D at 1 m² area of plants. Application of all these IPM treatments were combined in block E. Efficacy of all the treatments was assessed by percent fruit punctures, percent fruit infestation, infested fallen fruits and market value (\$) of fruits as compared to the orchards under farmers practices.

Statistical analysis

Mean population in all the traps was transformed (SQRT (X+0.5)) to normalized the distribution in the trap evaluation. All means were separated using least significant difference (LSD) test at *P* 0.05 (SAS Institute, 2003). Further to measure goodness of fit, the values of coefficient of determination (R²) were calculated by MS Excel. Data on fruit punctures, pupal population, fallen fruits, fruit infestation and fruit price was statistically analyzed by ANOVA using Statistica (Statsoft, 1998).

Table I. Layout of five fruit orchards blocks each of 1 hectare.

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T, Traps; PH, Protein based spray; PE, Plant extract spray.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

During the 1st year of study population attraction by the MAT technique was more aggressive as compared to the 2nd year. However, the population trends during both years were not significantly different from each other in all fruit orchards. Population peaks in guava orchard were found during the months of May-July with maximum captures 70.36 and 69.06 adults/trap, TFC were 1884 and 1697adults/season/acre during year 2015-16, respectively. Trend line ($y = -0.4891x + 30.993$, $R^2 = 0.02$) shows negative correlation of the regression line with population trends of both years. Population peaks in citrus orchard were found during the months of July-September with maximum captures 58.32 and 51.00 adults/trap, TFC were 1935 and 1743adults/season/acre during year 2015-16, respectively. Trend line ($y = 1.9183x + 1.5738$, $R^2 = 0.3665$) shows positive correlation with most fit regression line. In mango orchard population peaks were found during the months of July-August with maximum captures 37.54 and 43.92 adults/trap. Total flies captured (TFC)

were 1646 and 1414 adults/season/acre during year 2015-16, respectively. Trend line ($y = 0.7643x + 3.1153$, $R^2 = 0.1924$) shows positive correlation with most fit regression line of both years population trends as shown in [Figure 1](#). There was no significant deference of meteorological factors among two years. To reduce the extent of damage average infested fruits by fruit fly ([Fig. 2](#)) were estimated on plant basis. Ratio of fallen fruits was low in 2016 as compared to 2015. In guava orchard maximum 10.97 and 10.65 fallen fruits/plant were recorded during the month of April 2015-16, respectively. Level of infestation in guava was much higher as compared to the other fruit orchards. In citrus orchard maximum 3.36 and 2.98 fallen fruits/plant were recorded during the month of December 2015-16, respectively. However, in mango orchard maximum 6.74 and 6.90 fallen fruits/ plant were recorded during the month of July 2015-16, respectively. Fallen fruits were buried ([Table II](#)) at regular intervals. However total fallen fruits in all the IPM blocks were varied depending upon their efficacy. Fallen fruits in all treatments were higher except in the block having all the components

applied in combined way. This block depicted minimum fruit falling with maximum reduction in fruit falling in the following year. During 2016 % reduction in fruit fall was 10.24, 7.04 and 8.39 /ha in guava, citrus and mango orchards, respectively as compared to 2015. While all the other IPM blocks had enhanced fruit falling with minimum reduction in fruit fall. Similar type of response was noticed when calculated their effects on percent fruit punctures by the fruit fly (Table III). Range of fruit single punctures was 13.75-49.51, 2.67-13.64 and 3.25-13.75 % in guava, citrus and mango fruits, respectively. Fruit punctures in all the IPM blocks were higher except in complete IPM block E having minimum fruit punctures with maximum puncture reduction in the following year. As it showed 10.41, 7.17 and 7.32 % reduced punctures in guava, citrus and mango orchards, respectively in 2016 as compared to the previous year. Different plant extracts *i.e.* *A. indica*, *P. hysterophorus*, *C. campestris*, *N. oleander* and *C. colocynthis* were tested to check the pupal population under the tree canopy and percent fruit infestation. Range of pretreatment pupal population (Table IV) was 17.36-32.56, 4.52-8.64 and 4.68-8.73 in guava, citrus and mango orchards, respectively. After 21 days of 1st spray *A. indica*, *P. hysterophorus* and *C. colocynthis* reduced pupal population and % fruit infestation by 11.83 and 15.35, 9.03 and 10.79, 7.4 and 11.48 in guava orchard. *A. indica* reduced pupal population and % fruit infestation by 6.44 and 8.01 in citrus orchard, 5.5 and 3.52 in mango orchard, respectively. Range of pre treatment pupal population before 2nd application (Table IV) was 13.69-23.98, 4.79-8.75 and 4.86-8.36 in guava, citrus and mango orchards, respectively. After 21 days of 2nd spray *A. indica*, *P. hysterophorus* and *C. colocynthis* reduced pupal population and % fruit infestation by 14.53 and 19.41, 13.95 and 12.95, 10.74 and 10.29 in guava orchard, 9.47 and 15.51 in citrus orchard by *A. indica*, 7.2 and 5.84 in mango orchard by *A. indica*, respectively. Application of protein based protein hydrolyzate + malathion 50 EC produced non-significant reduction in % fruit punctures and fallen fruits (Tables II and III). It reduced 1.97, 0.04 and 0.15 % fruit punctures in guava, citrus and mango orchards, respectively with 1.09, 2.51 % reduced fruit fall in guava and citrus orchard. However increased fruit fall by 3.98 % in mango orchard. Depending upon the efficacy of different IPM modules market value of fruits was computed based on the fruit quality and infestation level (Table V). Maximum market value was obtained from block E having complete IPM components without come 2184, 2200, 2520 \$/ha in guava, citrus and mango orchard, respectively during 1st year. Due to continuous application of IPM module income got 15.60, 14.09 and 10.32 % increase in guava, citrus and mango orchard,

respectively. When compared with farmer fields they got 1890, 1825, 2330 \$/ha from guava, citrus and mango orchards, respectively during 1st year with only 1.59 % increase in guava orchard while 0.27 and 0.86 % decreased income from citrus and guava orchards. Where increase is very nominal as compared to the IPM blocks.

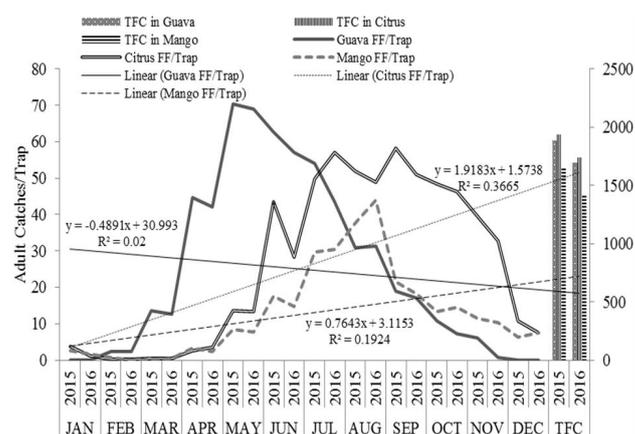


Fig. 1. Total fruit flies captured with average/ trap by male annihilation technique in different fruit orchards during 2015-16.

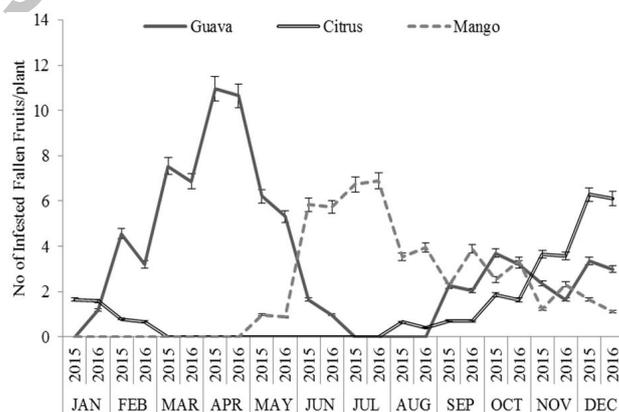


Fig. 2. Average number of infested fallen fruits/ plant.

Population peaks of fruitflies were different in all fruit orchards. Peaks were May-July, July-September and July-August in guava, citrus and Mango orchards through MAT. Several scientists worked on the population fluctuation of fruitflies by male attractants. They reported population peaks on March, April, May and June (Sarada *et al.*, 2001; Latif and Abdullah, 2005; Selvaraj *et al.*, 2006; Boopathi *et al.*, 2012; Boopathi, 2013) which are in agreement with our findings in guava and citrus orchards as it may be due to the availability of ample guava fruit in our peaks and ideal temperature for the activity. But the reported peaks were not correlating in mango orchard. But Draz *et al.* (2016)

Table II. Total number of buried fallen fruits/ha/year in different fruit orchards infested with fruitfly during 2015-16.

Block	IPM treatments	Guava			Citrus			Mango		
		2015	2016	% Change	2015	2016	% Change	2015	2016	% Change
A	Sanitation	3325	3100	-6.77 ^b	856	852	-0.47 ^c	635	618	-2.68 ^b
B	Male annihilation technique	3536	3320	-6.11 ^b	1136	1145	0.79 ^c	710	712	0.28 ^c
C	Plant Extracts	3025	2880	-4.79 ^c	986	954	-3.25 ^b	587	582	-0.85 ^b
D	Protein hydrolyzate +Malathion 50 EC	2759	2729	-1.09 ^d	1036	1010	-2.51 ^b	854	888	3.98 ^d
E	Complete IPM package (A-D)	1954	1754	-10.24 ^a	639	594	-7.04 ^a	274	251	-8.39 ^a
F	Farmer Practice	3352	3525	5.16 ^c	1459	1460	0.07 ^d	1159	1210	4.40 ^d

Table III. Effect of different IPM components on fruit punctures (%) in different fruit orchards.

Block	IPM treatments	Guava			Citrus			Mango		
		2015	2016	Change	2015	2016	Change	2015	2016	Change
A	Sanitation	36.21	31.72	-4.49 ^b	10.65	9.64	-1.01 ^b	8.64	7.49	-1.15 ^b
B	Male annihilation technique	28.69	24.68	-4.01 ^b	7.64	7.11	-0.53 ^b	12.64	11.42	-1.22 ^b
C	Plant extracts	38.64	35.64	-3.00 ^b	11.42	10.56	-0.86 ^b	11.64	11.74	0.10 ^b
D	Protein hydrolyzate +Malathion 50 EC	48.31	46.34	-1.97 ^b	13.64	13.60	-0.04 ^b	13.75	13.60	-0.15 ^b
E	Complete IPM package (A-D)	24.16	13.75	-10.41 ^a	9.84	2.67	-7.17 ^a	9.67	2.35	-7.32 ^a
F	Farmer practice	49.51	48.81	-0.70 ^b	11.64	12.57	0.93 ^b	10.48	11.21	0.73 ^b

Table IV. Effect of different plant extracts on pupal population and fruit infestation by fruitfly in different fruit orchards.

Spray (No)	Treatments/ plant extracts	Pre treatment pupal population (No)			% change in pupal population 21 DAS			Pre treatment fruit infestation (%)			% change in fruit infestation 21 DAS		
		A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C	A	B	C
1 st	<i>A. indica</i>	25.36	6.21	5.27	-11.83	-6.44	-5.50	58.62	6.24	4.26	-15.35	-8.01	-3.52
	<i>P. hysterophorus</i>	32.56	8.64	4.68	-9.03	1.27	6.20	46.36	10.25	5.81	-10.79	13.37	2.75
	<i>C. campestris</i>	19.45	5.23	7.24	-1.23	5.35	3.73	64.95	9.54	3.69	-3.34	1.78	7.59
	<i>N. oleander</i>	17.36	8.41	6.91	2.88	-2.38	-2.17	39.68	7.36	5.72	-9.93	-1.90	-0.52
	<i>C. colocynthis</i>	21.36	7.49	8.73	-7.40	-1.74	-0.46	44.78	14.25	4.64	-11.48	-4.35	-1.29
	Check	28.65	4.52	5.46	3.60	5.97	7.88	49.16	6.58	6.74	5.15	14.59	8.16
	P Value				P<0.048	P>0.05	P>0.05				P<0.040	P>0.05	P>0.05
CV (%)				16.34	12.65	20.84				23.65	18.64	11.54	
2 nd	<i>A. indica</i>	17.69	5.49	4.86	-14.53	-9.47	-7.20	47.91	5.74	4.11	-19.41	-15.51	-5.84
	<i>P. hysterophorus</i>	21.65	8.75	4.97	-13.95	5.26	3.42	52.43	11.62	5.97	-12.95	0.77	-1.34
	<i>C. campestris</i>	23.98	5.51	7.51	-6.76	7.62	4.26	39.76	9.71	3.97	-3.97	-1.96	4.79
	<i>N. oleander</i>	15.75	8.21	6.76	-6.60	4.75	-3.55	40.52	7.22	5.69	-7.18	-9.83	-1.76
	<i>C. colocynthis</i>	13.69	7.36	8.36	-10.74	-2.85	-2.27	36.16	12.63	4.58	-10.29	-10.77	-4.80
	Check	19.65	4.79	5.89	2.34	10.86	7.13	58.36	7.54	7.29	9.10	14.99	8.23
	P Value				P<0.035	P>0.05	P>0.05				P<0.021	P>0.05	P>0.05
CV (%)				9.57	13.68	14.68				19.68	13.59	8.57	

*A, Guava orchard; B, Citrus orchard; C, Mango orchard; DAS, Days after spray.

Table V. Economic output (\$/ha) of different fruit orchards by using different IPM components.

Block	IPM treatments	Guava			Citrus			Mango		
		2015	2016	% Change	2015	2016	% Change	2015	2016	% Change
A	Sanitation	1950	2010	3.08 ^b	2070	2170	4.83 ^b	2350	2450	4.26 ^b
B	Male annihilation technique	2060	2200	6.80 ^b	2150	2290	6.51 ^b	2180	2290	5.05 ^b
C	Plant extracts	2040	2100	2.94 ^b	2040	2110	3.43 ^b	2470	2510	1.62 ^b
D	Protein hydrolyzate+Malathion 50 EC	1700	1810	6.47 ^b	1830	1900	3.83 ^b	2250	2370	5.33 ^b
E	Complete IPM package(A-D)	2180	2520	15.60 ^a	2200	2510	14.09 ^a	2520	2780	10.32 ^a
F	Farmer practice	1890	1920	1.59 ^b	1825	1820	-0.27 ^c	2330	2310	-0.86 ^b

reported maximum peaks in the month of August, October, November and December. The lowest no of catches were recorded from December-March showing no significance population. Agarwal and Kumar (1999) and Abdel-Galil *et al.* (2010) also recorded peaks June, July and September of *Bactrocera* spp with the ripening season of citrus, mango and guava. Ravikumar (2005) found two peaks *i.e.* 1st week of July and 3rd week of November with population 132.67 and 37.67/trap, respectively in guava and mango orchard. This study is quite in accordance with our results where maximum population in guava and mango orchards were 69.06-70.36 and 37.54-43.92/trap, respectively. While in citrus orchard average population was 51-58.32/trap which confirmed by Jemaa *et al.* (2010) who captured 63.68 and 67.77 fruit flies in two orchards of mandarin and washington, respectively. Population infestation levels can be reduced by applying other components of IPM such as sanitation, protein based spray, and plant extracts. Excessive fruit fall 10.65-10.97/plant was found in guava orchard as compared to citrus and mango orchards having 2.98-3.36 and 6.47-6.90, respectively. Removal of these infested fruits is very much important to reduce fruit fly population levels. Disposal of fallen fruits was carried out at regular intervals. Similar strategy was adopted by (Dowell *et al.*, 2000). Tephritids larvae always pupate under the fruit/soil. Sanitation significantly reduces fruit fly population in the ecosystem (Panday, 2004). But this practice is not sufficient to eradicate fruit fly population completely (Klungness, 2005). Keeping in mind continuous burial of fruits was carried out. Total buried fallen fruits infested with fruit fly were 14599, 4552, 3060/ha/year in guava, citrus and mango orchards, respectively in five blocks of IPM. This practice not only reduced the application of toxic chemicals (Purcell *et al.*, 1994) but also breaks down the life cycle of fly to reduce its infestation in the next years. During 2016 fruit fall was significantly reduces as 6.77, 0.47 and 2.68 % in guava, citrus and mango orchards, respectively. Pinero *et al.* (2009) reported significantly more female fruit flies were captured in experimental plots that were categorized

as having poor sanitation in comparison with good sanitation plots. There were no extensive studies of plant extracts application on fruit fly were found. Few studies on *A. indica* and *C. colocynthis* were found in literature. *A. indica* reduced fruit infestation by 15.35, 8.01, 3.52 % after 1st spray and 19.41, 15.51, 5.84 % after 2nd spray in guava, citrus and mango orchards, respectively. Infestation levels in *A. indica* and *P. hysterothorus* were 47.91 and 52.43 % after 2nd application. These findings were confirmed by Ali *et al.* (2011) who reported 41.92 and 45.95 % fruit infestation in *A. indica* and *P. hysterothorus* treated plots. Dhilion *et al.* (2005), Oke (2008), Masood *et al.* (2009), Mahfuza *et al.* (2007) confirmed that *A. indica* can easily control populations of *B. cucurbitae* and *B. dorsalis*. *C. colocynthis* overall suppressed egg laying of *B. zonata* with 34.55 % repellency and caused mortality against adults of *Lipaphis erysimi* (Soam *et al.*, 2013). Some extracts in the study were used for the 1st time on fruitfly but their toxicity already been reported on other insects. Khan and Omar (2015) found *N. oleander* and *P. hysterothorus* efficient to formulate commercial products. Raveen *et al.* (2017) evaluated highest larvicidal activity of *N. oleander* against mosquito species. Several other scientists Komalamisra *et al.* (2005), Raveen *et al.* (2014), El-Akhal *et al.* (2015), Ali *et al.* (2008) also confirmed larvicidal and insecticidal activity of *N. Oleander*. Effects of these treatments were assessed through fruit punctures. Percent single point punctures in citrus were 2.67-13.64 in different IPM blocks. Amos *et al.* (2016) found similar results in citrus having 14-16 % single point attack. But the findings of Jemaa *et al.* (2010) not in agreement with our findings as he reported higher percentage of punctured fruits in citrus. However, the fruit puncture study in guava and mango has been reported before.

CONCLUSION

Best way to minimize the threat of fruitflies to the horticultural industry is to adopt all the IPM components

in a combined way because different components alone cannot be so effective. Continuous practices are needed to minimize fruitfly population and infestation with time. Such as use of methyl eugenol traps, burial of infested fruits, application of protein based baits and plant extracts at regular intervals. Among plant extracts *A. indica* and *C. colocynthis* proved to best if they are applied twice in the peak activity periods of fruitfly. However other components should be monitored at fortnightly intervals to get significant reduction in population level of fruitfly. This not only helpful in judicious use of insecticide but also protects natural enemies and environment from harmful effects.

Statement of conflict of interest

The authors have declared no conflict of interest.

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