

S N I P P E T S

(V. Varatharasa, A.O.)

- 48445 - IRRI Neem seed oil is a potential anti-fecundant for control of Brown Plant Hopper (BPH) *Nilaparvata lugens*. Choice laboratory tests showed that BPH generally avoided rice plants sprayed with 3, 6, or 12% crude emulsified neem oil. Rice fields sprayed with 12% neem seed oil emulsion had a significantly lower incidence of the BPH transmitted "rugged stunt" virus disease than unsprayed control.
- 48446 - IRRI Neem seed oil emulsion spray caused deterred oviposition reduced hatchability, late larval abnormality and mortality on Rice Leaf Folder - *Gnaphalacrosis medinalis*.
- 42398 - IRRI tests, 5 applications of 25% neem seed oil emulsion sprayed ULV at 4 litres/ha gave adequate insect protection to a rice crop. Neem cake applied to rice plants reduced insect attack significantly.
- 48864 - India - Aqueous extracts of neem kernel was effective against *Euproctis fraterna* on castor, 1% kernal extract inhibited *Nephantis serinopa* larvae on coconut, 0.5 and 1% extracts were effective on Sorghum shoot fly - *Potherigona soceala*. Kernal powder mixed at 2% with seeds of pigeon pea and mungbean controlled storage pest - *Callosobruchus chinensis*.
- 48363 - Tog - Methanol extracts of neem kernels was superior to mevinphos (phosdrin) in controlling *Phetella xylostella* and giving better yields and quality on cabbage. It was better than Endosulphan on cowpea yields. More simple and effective on storage pests.

- 48362 - Gambia - Neem suspensions controlled leaf eating larvae of *Epilachna chrysometina* on cucumber and *Papilio demodocus* (swallowtail butterfly larvae) on citrus.
- 43695 - India - Medicinal leaf powders control root-knot nematode. *Meloidogyne incognita*. Neem leaf powder followed by *Datura metel*, *Ricinus communis* and *Calatropis procera*. leaf powder showed nematicidal properties against root-knot nematode - *Meloidogyne incognita*.

BG-90-2 gets another name

After a series of tests at various locations between 1976-80 in Uttar Pradesh in India the Sri Lankan winner BG 90-2 has been released as a variety for irrigated lands. It is named "Pant Dhan 4" there - International Rice Research Newsletter - June 1984.

Banned Soil Fumigant

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has banned the use of ethylene dibromide on all grain products. Its use on fruit and vegetables may also be banned or restricted soon. It was discovered to have contaminated the ground water in Florida - International Agricultural Development July/August, 1984.

GRASSROOT TECHNOLOGY.

Two wheel tractor (2 WT) owner operators in the Anuradhapura area have improvised a low-cost, easily maintained, simple tine tiller as an alternative to the sophisticated power tiller supplied with the 2 WTs. The rotary power tillers require careful maintenance by servicing and

replacement of oils, racers, bushes, chains and sprockets. The rotorblades for them get fastly wasted and need replacement 2 or 3 times a season.

The new tiller developed is a miniature modification of the 4 WT nine-tine tiller. Fabricated from discarded tines of the 4 WT. tine tiller, it has three tines, no moving parts, and easily cheaply replaceable share points which is the same for the 4 WT tiller.

A local welder at Rambewa finishing the sixth piece on order in two months said that he sells at Rs.1600/- a piece. (Personal contact).



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