BLOSSOM BLIGHT OF CASHEW (Anacardium occidentale) in SRI LANKA

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Cashew (*Anacardium occidentale L)* is grown mostly in the driest areas of Sri Lanka. Cashew production in the Northern and Eastern tracts suffers economic losses due to insect damage. Inflorescence blight or Blossom Blight is a major problem in cashew cultiva tion both in Sri Lanka and India. Loss of yields due to this disease can occur upto 30%. (Anon, 1966). Studies in India have shown that this disease is caused by Tea mosquito (*Helopeltis antonii)* in association with fungi *Cloesporium mangiferae* and *Phomopsis anacardiae* (Anon 1960, and Anon 1965). In Sri Lanka although Tea mosquito and certain fungi are thought to be associa ted with this blight, their exact role in causation of this disease has not been clearly understood. There fore studies were undertaken at Kondachchi cashew plan tation to fill this lacuna and work out effective plant protection schedules to control this disease.

Results of these studies showed that Tea mosquito *Helopeltis antonii (Heteroptera:Miridae)* is the primary casual organism while fungal organisms *Glaesporium mangiferae, Pestaliopsis spp, Botrydiplodia spp* were also isolated from old scabby leisions. The scabby leisions and quick drying inflorescences indicated the possible involvement of some toxic substance in the saliva of the insect. Further investivations clearly indicated that Tea mosquito (*Helopeltis antonii)* is the primary casual agent of the blight and spraying with suitable insecticides (BHC Fenitrathion etc) at the appropriate time helped to control this disease. Spraying a suitable insecticide is recommended at the flushing season beginning with Maha rains. If the pest population increases spray a fungicide. (Copper fun gicides and wettable sulpher) to control the fungi Fungicides need not be included in the initial spray ings as it was observed that fungi could only be isola ted from old scabby leisions and not from young inflo resences.

References:

1:Anonymous(1960)-Report of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research,1957-58,pp.7-57.

2:Anonymous(1965)-Annual progress report of the Central Cashew Research station, Ullal, 1965-1965,pp.45.

3:Anonymous(1966)-Ibid; for the period of July 1,1965-June 30,1966,pp.48.

කජු මල් වලට හානි සිදුවීම

කජු මල් වලට කෘමී යහ දිලිර හානි සිදුවීම නිසා කජු අස්වැන්න 30% දක්වා අඩුවේ. පලමුව කෘමීන්ගෙන් මල් වලට හානි සිදුවීමත් ඉන්පසු දිලිර රෝග හටගැනීම සිදුවන බවත් සොයාගෙන ඇත. බී . එච් . සී . හෝ පෙතිධ්‍රෝතියන් වැනි කෘමීනාශක මල් හටගන්නා මුල් අවස්ථාවේදීම ඉසීම නිර්දේශ කරනු ලැබේ. ඉන්පසුව අවඤ්ඤාවහොත් පමණක් (තඹ මිශ්‍ර හෝ ගෙන්ධක) දිලිර නාශක බෙහෙත් ඉසීම සුදුසුය.

ஈரப் பூஞ்சினைப் பூ வெளிறல்

வடக்குப் பிழக்கு மாகாணங்களில் உள்ள ஈரப்பூஞ்சினை உற்பத்திப் பூ வெளிறல் அல்லது பூந்தூசர் வெளிறல் எனப்படும் நோய்க்கும் பொதும் பாதிக்கப்படுகின்றன. தெங்கு சார் துணைப்பு (தென்னை பெல்ஸ்ஸ் துன்தொனி) எனப்படும் பூச்சியின் உமிழ் நீரில் உள்ள நச்சுத் தன்மையினாலேயே பூல் வெளிறல் ஏற்படுவதாக கூறுபடுகிறது. இந்நோயுடன் சில் பங்கசுக்களும் தொடர்புடையதாக விருப்பதும் அவதானிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளது. பெரும்போக மழையுடன் புதிய தளிர்கள் தோன்றும் வேளையில் பி. எச். பி. அளவு பெண்ற்றுத்தியோனேட் பூச்சி நாசினியை தெளிப்பதன் மூலம் இந்நோயைக் கட்டுப்படுத்த முடியும். பூச்சித் தொகை கூடுதலாகக் காணப்படும் வேளைகளில் புங்கை நாசினி ஒன்றை (செம்புரி பங்கசு நாசினி தவிர்ந்த) தெளித்தலும் சிறந்த பூந்தினைகளில் இவ்வேளையில் அறுவடை தாக்கம் அவதானிக்கப்பட்டுள்ளதால் மற்ற வகை