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EFFICACY OF CHEMICAL CONTROL METHODS AGAINST MAJOR WHEAT PESTS

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Alamuratov Rayimjon Abdimurotovich

Scientific Research Institute of Plant Quarantine and Protection, Tashkent Region, Uzbekistan

Bababekov Q

Scientific Research Institute of Plant Quarantine and Protection, Tashkent Region, Uzbekistan

Sagdatova Mahbuba Jurayevna

Scientific Research Institute of Plant Quarantine and Protection, Tashkent Region, Uzbekistan

Mustafayev Khumoyun Buronovich

Scientific Research Institute of Plant Quarantine and Protection, Tashkent Region, Uzbekistan

ABSTRACT

This article investigates the insecticidal activity of the chemical preparation Antikolorad Max, sus.k., against major wheat pests such as harmful bugs, slimy worms, wheat thrips, and grain aphids. According to the results of the experiment, when this preparation was applied at a rate of 0.1-0.15 l/ha, it demonstrated a biological efficiency of 88.6-92.5% against harmful bugs, 91.6-94.8% against slimy worms, 89.4-95.8% against wheat thrips, and 89.4-93.1% against aphids 14 days after application.

KEYWORDS

Wheat, pest, larva, chemical preparation, biological efficiency.

INTRODUCTION

Today, one of the critical issues that humanity needs to address is meeting the food demands of the

population. To fulfill this need, it is essential to achieve high yields from wheat (*Triticum aestivum* L.). Wheat

ranks first among cereal crops in terms of nutritional value for humans, accounting for 35% of their food requirements. However, the main reason for the decline in wheat yield is the damage caused by pests that feed on wheat, resulting in significant yield losses. Among the wheat pests, six species of grain aphids, four species of harmful bugs, six species of thrips, and one species of slimy worms are known to cause significant damage.

One of the main pests widespread in all wheat-growing regions of Uzbekistan is the harmful bug. Adult bugs emerge from hibernation in March-April and initially damage the central leaf part of the plant, followed by the grain part, causing the whole plant to wilt. The germination rate of grains from fields infested with harmful bugs decreases by up to 50%. Additionally, wheat thrips can reduce yields by 5-13%. Adult thrips attach to the upper leaf sheath during the stem elongation phase of wheat, causing significant damage. Thrips larvae can lead to up to a 20% yield loss.

Scientists have identified 29 species of aphids that damage wheat yields. During the growth period of autumn wheat, aphid epidemics cause damage by sucking cell sap from the leaves. Yield losses due to aphids range from 7.9% to 34.2%. Some authors have noted that timely planting of wheat can reduce the damage caused by aphids. The slimy worm (pyavitsa) *Lema melanopus* L. (order Coleoptera, family Chrysomelidae) is a dangerous pest that significantly damages wheat, barley, and other cereal crops. Its larvae undergo four molts to reach adulthood, with the fourth stage larvae causing the most damage.

Given the above, it is crucial to find effective control measures against the main wheat pests to preserve wheat yields. For this purpose, we conducted research

on the effectiveness of the chemical preparation Antikolorad Max, sus.k., against the main wheat pests.

METHODS

To determine the insecticidal activity of chemical preparations against the main wheat pests, experiments were conducted in 2024 on a 7.5-hectare field of the "Soxibkor agro" farm in Tayloq district, Samarkand region.

The timing of pest emergence and population counts were conducted according to the methods of Polyakov et al. (1984), Osmolovsky G.E., and Bondarenko N.V. (1978). Pest counts were performed during the stem elongation and heading phases of wheat. A logarithmic scale was used to determine the number of pests per plant and the population density in the wheat field.

The degree of leaf damage was assessed using the 0-5 scale of Stamenkov, S., and Pankov, L. (1991) and the methods of Rouag N. et al. (2012). The insecticidal activity of the preparations in field conditions was determined using the methodological guide of Khojayev (2004), and biological efficiency was calculated using Abbott's formula (1925).

Counts were performed on days 3, 7, and 14 after treatment. Experiments were conducted in three replicates for each variant, including control (untreated). A tractor-mounted sprayer was used to apply the working solution at a rate of 300 liters per hectare.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Field trials were conducted to determine the effectiveness of Antikolorad Max, sus.k. (Imidacloprid + lambda-cyhalothrin) against major wheat pests at rates of 0.1-0.15 l/ha (Figure 1).



Figure 1: Testing the chemical preparations against pests using a tractor-mounted sprayer

According to the results, Antikolorad Max, sus.k. demonstrated a biological efficiency of 78.7% on day 3, 85.0% on day 7, and 88.6% on day 14 at a rate of 0.1 l/ha against harmful bugs. At a rate of 0.15 l/ha, the biological efficiency was 82.0% on day 3, 90.4% on day 7, and 92.5% on day 14. The standard preparation Borey, 20% sus.k., showed 78.3% on day 3, 87.3% on day 7, and 89.2% on day 14. In the control variant, the number of pests increased from 8.1 to 14.1 per plant over 14 days.

Against slimy worms, Antikolorad Max, sus.k. demonstrated a biological efficiency of 60.0% on day 3, 82.2% on day 7, and 91.6% on day 14 at a rate of 0.1 l/ha. At a rate of 0.15 l/ha, the biological efficiency was 62.2% on day 3, 89.5% on day 7, and 94.8% on day 14. The standard preparation Borey, 20% sus.k., showed 62.0% on day 3, 86.2% on day 7, and 93.2% on day 14.

Table 1. Biological efficiency of Antikolorad Max, sus.k. against harmful bugs and slimy worms in wheat (Tayloq district, "Soxibkor agro" farm, Samarkand region, 2024).

| № | Experimental Variants | Active Ingredient | Applicati on Rate (l/ha) | Average Number of Pests per m2 | | | Biological Efficiency (%) | | | |
|----------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|-----|---------------------------|------|------|------|
| | | | | Befo- re Treat- ment | After Treatment Days | | | | | |
| | | | | | 3 | 7 | 14 | 3 | 7 | 14 |
| 1. Harmful bug | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. | Antikolorad Maks, sus.k | Imidacloprid + lambda-cyhalothrin | 0,1 | 9,1 | 2,1 | 2,0 | 1,8 | 78,7 | 85,0 | 88,6 |
| | | | 0,15 | 8,4 | 1,7 | 1,2 | 1,1 | 82,0 | 90,4 | 92,5 |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|----------------|-----------------------------------|---|------|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|
| 2. | Borey, 20% sus.k (standard) | <i>Imidacloprid</i> + <i>lambda-cyhalothrin</i> | 0,12 | 7,9 | 1,8 | 1,5 | 1,3 | 78,3 | 87,3 | 89,2 |
| 3. | Control | - | | 8,1 | 8,8 | 11,9 | 14,1 | - | - | - |
| 2. Slimy worms | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. | Antikolorad Maks, sus.k | <i>Imidacloprid</i> + <i>lambda-cyhalothrin</i> | 0,1 | 5,8 | 2,6 | 1,2 | 0,6 | 60,0 | 82,2 | 91,6 |
| | | | 0,15 | 6,3 | 2,5 | 0,8 | 0,4 | 62,2 | 89,5 | 94,8 |
| 2. | Borey, 20% sus.k. (andoza) | <i>Imidacloprid</i> + <i>lambda-cyhalothrin</i> | 0,12 | 6,0 | 2,4 | 1,0 | 0,5 | 62,0 | 86,2 | 93,2 |
| 3. | Control | - | - | 5,6 | 5,9 | 6,8 | 6,9 | - | - | - |

The results of our experiments against wheat thrips and grain aphids are presented in Table 2. The data show that against wheat thrips, Antikolorad Max, sus.k. demonstrated a biological efficiency of 62.7% on day 3, 79.5% on day 7, and 89.4% on day 14 at a rate of 0.1 l/ha. At a rate of 0.15 l/ha, the biological efficiency was 64.7% on day 3, 83.7% on day 7, and 95.8% on day 14. The standard preparation Borey, 20% sus.k., showed 65.4% on day 3, 86.0% on day 7, and 96.2% on day 14.

Against grain aphids, Antikolorad Max, sus.k. demonstrated a biological efficiency of 79.5% on day 3, 86.2% on day 7, and 89.4% on day 14 at a rate of 0.1 l/ha. At a rate of 0.15 l/ha, the biological efficiency was 80.2% on day 3, 89.4% on day 7, and 93.1% on day 14. The standard preparation Borey, 20% sus.k., showed 78.4% on day 3, 89.6% on day 7, and 90.7% on day 14.

Table 2. Biological efficiency of Antikolorad Max, sus.k. against wheat thrips and grain aphids in wheat (Tayloq district, "Soxibkor agro" farm, Samarkand region, 2024).

| № | Experimental Variants | Active Ingredient | Applicati on Rate (l/ha) | Average Number of Pests per m2 | | | Biological Efficiency (%) | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|-------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|----------------------|---|---------------------------|---|----|
| | | | | Befo- re Treat- ment | After Treatment Days | | 3 | 7 | 14 |
| | | | | | 3 | 7 | | | |
| 1. Wheat thrips | | | | | | | | | |

| | | | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|-----------------------------|---|------|-----|-----|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1. | Antikolorad Maks, sus.k | <i>Imidacloprid+ lambda-cyhalothrin</i> | 0,1 | 6,6 | 2,5 | 1,6 | 0,6 | 62,7 | 79,5 | 89,4 |
| | | | 0,15 | 6,4 | 2,3 | 1,0 | 0,3 | 64,7 | 83,7 | 95,8 |
| 2. | Borey, 20% sus.k (standard) | <i>Imidacloprid+ lambda-cyhalothrin</i> | 0,12 | 7,2 | 2,2 | 0,9 | 0,2 | 65,4 | 86,0 | 96,2 |
| 3. | Control | - | - | 5,6 | 5,7 | 5,4 | 4,8 | - | - | - |
| 2. Grain aphids | | | | | | | | | | |
| 1. | Antikolorad Maks, sus.k | <i>Imidacloprid+ lambda-cyhalothrin</i> | 0,1 | 9,2 | 2,1 | 1,9 | 1,7 | 79,5 | 86,2 | 89,4 |
| | | | 0,15 | 8,2 | 1,8 | 1,3 | 1,1 | 80,2 | 89,4 | 93,1 |
| 2. | Borey, 20% sus.k (standard) | <i>Imidacloprid+ lambda-cyhalothrin</i> | 0,12 | 7,5 | 1,8 | 1,2 | 1,3 | 78,4 | 89,6 | 90,7 |
| 3. | Control | - | - | 7,9 | 8,8 | 11,9 | 14,1 | - | - | - |

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the field trials, it can be concluded that Antikolorad Max, sus.k., at a rate of 0.1-0.15 l/ha, demonstrated a biological efficiency of 88.6-92.5% against harmful bugs, 91.6-94.8% against slimy worms, 89.4-95.8% against wheat thrips, and 89.4-93.1% against aphids 14 days after application. Therefore, Antikolorad Max, sus.k., at a rate of 0.1-0.15 l/ha, can be considered an effective chemical control measure against the major pests of cereal crops.

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