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## Efficacy of selective insecticides against pumpkin caterpillar (Diaphania indica Saunders) on Gherkin

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A n experiment was conducted on the efficacy of selective insecticides against pumpkin caterpillar Diaphania indica Saunders under randomized block design at student farm, College of Agriculture, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad during rabi, 2010-11. The objective of this study was to investigate the most effective insecticide against the D. indica population. Different groups of chemicals were selected and the treatments were imposed as foliar sprays by using a hand compression knapsack sprayer of about 500 lit ha<sup>-1</sup> spray fluid against the pumpkin caterpillar. Among the different newer molecules, flubendiamide 480 SC at 60 g a.i. ha<sup>-1</sup>, combination product of flubendiamide 480 SC + thiacloprid 240 SC at 48 + 48 g a.i. ha<sup>-1</sup> and lambdacyhalothrin 5 SC at 18.75 g a.i. ha<sup>-1</sup> recorded high per cent reduction of D. indica population to 65.50, 62.12 and 59.22 per cent, respectively when compared to lambdacyhalothrin 5SC + thiamethoxam 25 WG at 15.625 + 31.25 g a.i. ha<sup>-1</sup> (50.96%), indoxacarb 14.5 SC at 21.75 g a.i. ha<sup>-1</sup> (47.87), triazophos 40 EC at 500 g a.i. ha<sup>-1</sup> (45.67%), thiacloprid 240 SC at 120 g a.i. ha<sup>-1</sup> (37.95%), thiamethoxam 25 WG at 31.25 g a.i. ha<sup>-1</sup> (18.51%), and azadirachtin 0.15 EC at 1500 ppm (15.75%) after third spray. Thus flubendiamide 480 SC (60 g a.i. ha<sup>-1</sup>) was adjudged as the best and effective treatment in checking D. indica population.

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