



KALRO/NAVCDP Factsheet No. 022 /2024

Integrated management of Green Peach Aphids (*Myzus persicae*) in Pyrethrum

Introduction

This pest sucks plant sap, thus reducing the growth of the plant. It attacks the young shoots, leaves and stems. It also secretes honeydew on which sooty moulds grow on leaves and reduces the photosynthetic surface area. The pest also transmits viruses during feeding on plants.

Symptoms/ Damage

- Aphids are soft bodied insects (1 to 4 mm long), spear-shaped, green, greenish brown or greenish black in colour.
- The underside of leaves and bud areas have sticky exudate (honeydew) that often turns black with the growth of sooty moulds.



Management strategies

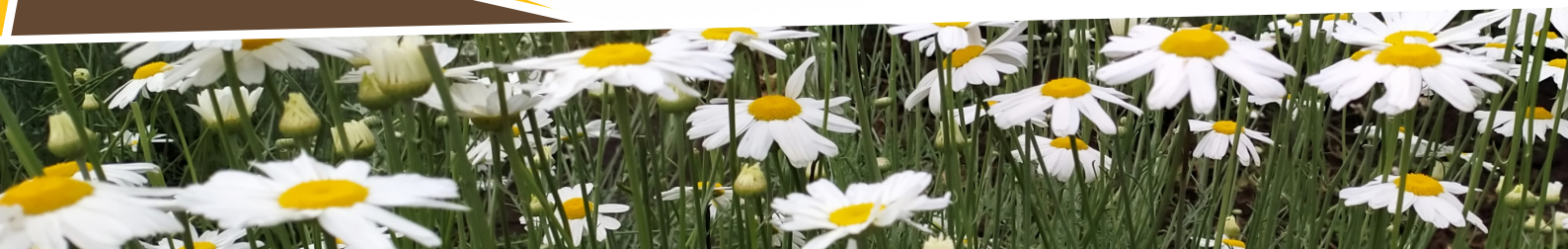
Cultural Practices

- Regularly monitor the crops during seedling and flowering growth stages
- Use yellow traps to monitor aphid population
- Remove weeds from the farm and infested plants and destroy by burning
- Spray with soapy solution (15 tablespoons liquid soap in 20lt of water) to infested crop.



Green aphids on leaves of pyrethrum leaves

(Janet Obanyi 2022)





Biological control

Spraying the crop with Azadirachtin (Achook, Fortune, Neemraj Super, Nimbecidine, Ozonem) or Aphitech (*Aphidius transcaspinus*, a parasitic wasp), Biocatch (*Verticillium lecanii*), Bio-Power (*Beauveria bassiana*), Botanigard (*Beauveria bassiana*) at manufacturers' recommended rates.

Chemical control – Spray using Deltamethrin (e.g. Atom, Decis) or Lambda-cyhalothrin (e.g. Duduthrin, Karate) as per manufacturers' recommendations.



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