



KALRO/NAVCDP Factsheet No. 027/2024

Integrated Management of Scales in Pyrethrum

Introduction

Scale insects have a body covered by a protective waxy shell, often resembling scales or cottony cushions.

Symptoms /damage

- White cotton-like masses made of flocks of bugs on the underside of leaves, stems, flowers, and fruits
- Presence of honeydew on attacked parts
- Causes stunting, chlorosis, defoliation, and wilting of plants
- Dead heart of infested plants

Management Strategies

Integrated management of scales includes a combination of the cultural practices, bio-control and chemical control options that are outlined.

Cultural practices

- Use clean seedlings free from scales.
- Provide alternative habitats by conserving flowering plants at the borders of the field to promote natural enemies.
- Prune out light infestations and burn the pruned



Insect scales on the stem (infornet)

- plant parts.
- Practise good crop hygiene by removal of infested plants and destroying by burning.
- Spray infested plants with a mild solution of water with dish-washing detergent at rate of 1 tea spoonful of detergent in 1 litre of water.
- Avoid planting new crops next to an infested field.
- Avoid continuous cropping of pyrethrum and solanaceous plants (potato, tomato, eggplant,

nightshades) in the same field.

Biological control

Use products like Beauvitech® WP or Lecatech® WP every 5 - 7 days with 2 - 4 repeat applications.

Chemical control

Spray with Paraffin oil 98% (e.g. Segatron Ultra liquid) or with synthetic pesticides (e.g. Closer 240SC, Engeo 247 SC, Shield 600 FS or Amazing Top WDG) at manufacturers' recommendations.



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