

# RELATIVE TOXICITY OF SPRAY SCHEDULES TO NATURAL ENEMIES OF KEY INSECT PESTS OF COTTON

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**Abstract :** The toxicity of spray schedules was evaluated against three predators which revealed that higher population of spider, chrysopa and coccinellids were recorded in spray schedule  $S_2$  (all the five sprays of Btk),  $S_1$  (all the five sprays of azadirachtin),  $S_5$  (all the five sprays of cow urine 5 %) and  $S_6$  (all the five sprays of cow urine 10 %) indicating their low toxicity. The population of predators in these schedules was comparable to that of control. The treatments of synthetic insecticides viz., methyl demeton, monocrotophos, deltamethrin, endosulfan, alphamethrin and imidacloprid proved highly toxic to all the three predators resulting in their low population. The endosulfan was found less toxic to the predators than all other synthetic insecticides.

**Keywords :** Relative toxicity, Spray schedules, Natural enemies, Cotton

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