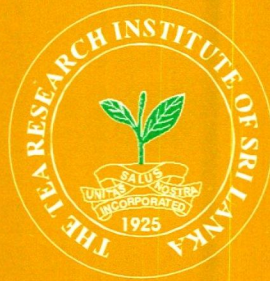


TRI - ADVISORY CIRCULARS



PESTICIDE USE

PU



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PESTICIDE USE IN TEA FIELDS

(This Circular supersedes Advisory Circular No. PU 1, Serial No. 03/08, issued in November 2008)

1. Introduction

Diseases, insect, mite and nematode pests, and weeds occur in tea, in different stages of the crop, and at different times of the year. The integrated management approach consists of various agronomic, cultural, biological and chemical strategies to manage pests in a rational and environmental friendly manner. Rational use of fungicides, insecticides, acaricides, nematocides and weedicides is a part of integrated management of diseases, insects, mites, nematodes and weeds respectively.

It is necessary to strengthen biological systems and improve cultural practices in order to promote the build-up of tolerance in plant and biological-control organisms in the environment, and to prevent the introduction and dissemination of pests, diseases and weeds in tea fields.

As tea is a food commodity for human consumption, there is a growing concern among health-conscious consumers on pesticide residues that may be present in tea.

It is advisable to use pesticides in tea fields carefully, in order to minimize the residues in made tea, effects on workers and non-target organisms in the eco-system. Moreover, the cost-effectiveness and the social acceptance of pesticide usage also have to be considered for the sustainability of the tea industry.

The chemicals and their use in tea are subjected to change periodically to meet the requirements of consumers, cost-effectiveness, social and environmental acceptance, etc. It is necessary to maintain pesticide residues in made tea at levels below the Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs) set for different pesticides by different countries.

When pesticides are applied to tea foliage, it is advisable to; adhere to specific Pre-Harvest Intervals (PHI), and bulk green leaf from the sprayed and unsprayed fields or made tea at a ratio of 1:10. This would minimize the pesticide residues in the made tea.

2. List of Recommended Pesticides

The active substances recommended for control of diseases, insects, mites and nematode pests and weeds in tea plantations by the Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka, as at October, 2011 and respective MRLs of Japan and EU countries are given in the Table 1.

Growers are advised to use only the chemicals listed in Table 1 as per TRI recommendations given in Advisory Circulars PU 2, PU 3 and PU 4.

Table 1. List of recommended pesticides by the Tea Research Institute of Sri Lanka

No.	Common name (active ingredient)	Type	MRL for made tea (ppm)		TRI Advisory Circular No.
			Japan	EU	
1	Bitertanol	F	0.10	0.10	PU2
2	Copper hydroxide	F	Exempted	40 (as Cu)	PU2
3	Copper oxide	F	Exempted	40 (as Cu)	PU2
4	Copper oxychloride	F	Exempted	40 (as Cu)	PU2
5	Hexaconazole	F	0.05	0.05	PU2
6	Propiconazole	F	0.10	0.10	PU2
7	Tebuconazole	F	30.00	0.05	PU2
8	Carbofuran	I & N	0.20	0.05	PU4
9	Chlorfluazuron	I	10.00	0.01	PU4
10	Diazinon	I	0.10	0.02	PU4
11	Fipronil	I	-	0.005	PU4
12	Imidacloprid	I	10.00	0.05	PU4
13	Sulfur	A	Exempted	Exempted	PU4
14	Dazomet	N	0.10	0.02	PU4
15	Metam Sodium	N	0.10	0.02	PU4
16	2,4-D	W	0.01	0.10	PU3
17	Diuron	W	1.00	0.10	PU3
18	Glufosinate-ammonium	W	0.50	0.10	PU3
19	Glyphosate	W	1.00	2.00	PU3
20	MCPA	W	0.01	0.10	PU3
21	Oxyfluorfen	W	0.01	0.05	PU3
22	Paraquat	W	0.30	0.05	PU3

F - Fungicide; I - Insecticide; A - Acaricide; N - Nematicide; W - Weedicide

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