

Preliminary results of Insecticide trials on the Pale Cotton Stainer Bug (CSB) – Infestations have been reported prompting a **preliminary trial** to be conducted using common chemicals to determine their efficacy.



Adult
(15 mm)



1st instar nymph
(2 – 3 mm),



3rd instar nymph,
(6 – 8 mm)



4th instar nymph
(9 – 11 mm)

Photos:
Lewis Wilson CSIRO

Pale cotton stainer bug

Researchers Moazzem Khan & Adam Quade (DPI&F), & Murray Boshammer (Total Ag. Services) ran a preliminary trial in dryland cotton crop assessing different control options.

Table 1. Treatments and rates used in the trial

Treatment	Formulation (g/L)	Rate (mL/ha)
Control	Untreated	
Decis	Deltamethrin 27.5 EC	700
Decis	Deltamethrin 27.5 EC	400
Decis + Salt	Deltamethrin 27.5 EC + Table Salt	400+ 10 g/L of water
Steward	Indoxacarb 150 EC	850
Steward	Indoxacarb 150 EC	400
Steward + Salt	Indoxacarb 150 EC + Table Salt	400+ 10 g/L of water
Regent	Fipronil 200 SC	125
Regent	Fipronil 200 SC	60
Regent + Salt	Fipronil 200 SC + Table salt	60 + 10 g/L of water

Pre-treatment CSB No's were moderate, ranging from 1 to 9/m (adults). The main beneficials were spiders (59%), & brown smudge bug (BSB) (37%).

Trial - The treatments are presented above in Table 1. There were 3 treatments replicated 3 times. The application was done with a ground rig. Pre-treatment counts, 0 days after treatment (0 DAT), were made the day before application. Post-treatment counts were made at 3 & 7 DAT.

Effect on CSB

Decis full rate & 400ml + salt reduced the numbers of CSB below 95% of the original population 3 DAT & 100% after 7 days.

Steward 400 ml plus salt reduced CSB population by 71% & 98% at 3 & 7 DAT. Efficacy of Steward 400 ml was poor & the full rate of Steward gave 64% kill at 7 DAT.

Regent full rate, 60 and 60 ml plus salt gave 71, 63 and 73% kill at 3 DAT & 74, 80 and 92% kill at 7 DAT, respectively.

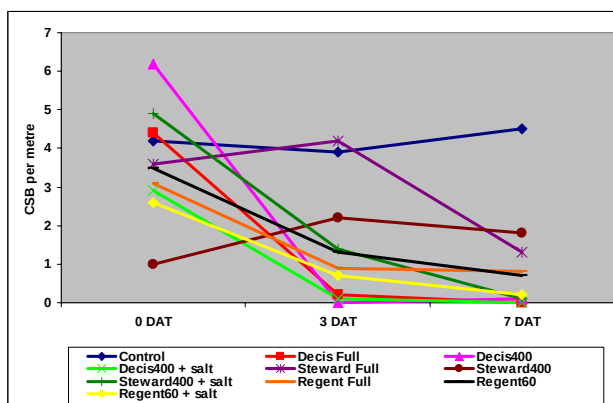


Figure 1. Effect of different chemicals on CSB showing % kill (A) and kill over time (B)

Impact on beneficials -The population; of BSB & spiders increased for all treatments except for Decis full rate & Decis 400 ml plus salt at 3 DAT where spider population reduced by 8% & 20%, respectively.

Conclusion – The results should be **considered as a guide & not as a recommendation**. In this **preliminary trial** only 2 groups of beneficials were present. The risk of flaring other secondary pests such as whitefly should be considered when using broad spectrum chemicals. **Please refer to the April edition of the Australian Cotton Grower magazine for full trial results.**