

Advisories for the management of pomegranate stem borer *Coelosterna spinator*

Pomegranate stem borer – [*Coelosterna spinator* Fletcher: Cerambycidae: Coleoptera]

Stem borer, once considered minor pests of pomegranates assuming major status, and is becoming major problem in combination with shot-hole borer. Cerambycid beetle, *Coelosterna spinator* is normally found associated with pomegranate. Stem borer, *C. spinator* bores the stems and trunk of pomegranate trees.

Damage Symptoms



Stem borer grub

Bored tunnel

Dried plant with hole

Saw dust pellets

Management

Cultural/Physical:

1. Prevent plants from becoming weak due to poor nutrition, attack by other insect etc.
2. Hand picking and killing of adults in kerosene water from July to September.
3. The grubs of stem borer can be killed by inserting a hooked wire down the hole.
4. Pruning of dead branches during pre-monsoon and before taking *bahar*.
5. Do not heap dead or uprooted wood within or near orchards.
6. Attract and kill by installing the light traps with 200watts sodium bulb.

Chemical:

1. Application of paste
10 liters of water + red soil (4kg) + chlorpyrifos 20 EC (20ml) + copper oxychloride (25 g) apply with the help of brush, up to 1-2 feet above from second year crop onwards.
2. Inject the damaged stems holes with dichlorvos 76 EC @ 70-80 ml/liter.

3. Apply Dichlorvos solution with the help of squeeze bottle till the bored tunnel is filled and then close with the wet mud.