



## Impact of Certain Agrochemicals on Leafhoppers, *Amrasca biguttula biguttula* (Ishida) (Homoptera: Cicadellidae) in Bhendi, *Abelmoschus Esculentus* (L.) Moench, Ecosystem

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**Abstract:** Two supervised field experiments were conducted in the bhendi during kharif, 2014 and rabi, 2014-15 to study the impact of agrochemicals on leafhoppers population. The agrochemicals used were fertilizer, insecticide and herbicide individually as well as in combinations. It was found that the population of leafhoppers was higher in the untreated check (4.53 to 7.06/plant) while a low population was recorded in the treatment with herbicide + insecticide (1.43 to 2.63/plant) during kharif. In rabi, a higher population was recorded in the untreated check (4.33 to 5.96/plant) while a low population was observed in the treatment with herbicide + insecticide (1.13 to 2.36/plant). It was also found that, the population was higher in the treatment with fertilizer (3.94 and 4.05/plant in kharif and rabi respectively) alone compared to the other treatments in both the seasons. Hence, a need based application of agrochemicals protect the ecosystem with a lesser impact on the insects and natural enemies.

**Key words:** Leafhoppers, *Amrasca biguttula biguttula*, impact, agrochemicals.

## INTRODUCTION

Bhendi is a major vegetable producing and consuming country and vegetables form an important dietary component. Among them okra, (*Abelmoschus esculentus*

(L.) Moench) is one of the popular and commercially cultivated vegetable crops, popularly known as Bhendi or ladies finger and is a potential foreign exchange earner, accounting for 60 per cent of