B.Sc. Horti. VIth Sem Insect pests of Vegetable, Ornamental, and spice crops (PPH-322)

# Topic name: Major insect pest of solanaceous crop (potato & tomato) and their management



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# INTRODUCTION

### POTATO (Solanum tuberosum)

#### TOMATO (Lycopersicon esculentum)

- Potato is introduced in India from Europe in 17<sup>th</sup> century.
- It is largely grown in cool regions, the optimum temperature required is about 15-25° C.
- > Tomato is warm season crop, is grown extensively in cool season also.
- > Optimum temperature is about 15-27° C.

- Potato is cultivated in India mainly in UP,WB, Bihar and Punjab
- ➤ UP is largest producer of potato in India and contributes about 41% India's Production of Potato
- Major tomato growing states in India are UP, MH,
  Bihar and Orissa.

# PEST OF TOMATO

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FAMILY	ORDER
Fruit borer	Hilicoverpa armigera	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Serpentine leaf minor	Liriomyza trifolii	Agromyzidae	Diptera
White flies	Bemisia tabaci	Aleyrodidae	Hemiptera
Mealy bug	Ferrisia virgata	Pseudococcidae	Hemiptera
Fruit sucking Moth	Otheris fullonica O. Meterna O. ancilla	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
Hadda beetle	Henosepilachna vigintopunctata	coccinellidae	Coleoptera

#### Conti....

Leaf eating caterpillar

Green bugs

**Thrips** 

Mite

Spodoptera litura Noctuidae

Thripidae

Lepidoptera

S. exigua

Nezara viridula

Pentatomidae

Hemiptera

Thrips tabaci **Calliothrips** 

indicus

**Tetranychus** 

cinnabarinus

Thysanoptera

## PEST OF POTATO

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	FAMILY	ORDER
Aphids	Myzus persicae Aphis gossypii	Aphididae	Hemiptera
Tuber Moth	Pthorimaea operculllela	Gelechiidae	Lepidoptera
Cut worms	Agrotis segetum A. ipsilon	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera
White fly	Bemisia tabaci	Aleurodidae	Homoptera
Leaf hopper	Amrasca biguttuia biguttula	Cicadellidae	Homoptera
Tobacco caterpillar	Spodoptera litura	Noctuidae	Lepidoptera

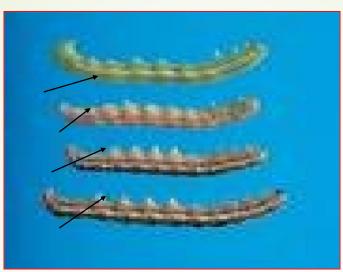
#### Fruit borer

#### Helicoverpa armigera

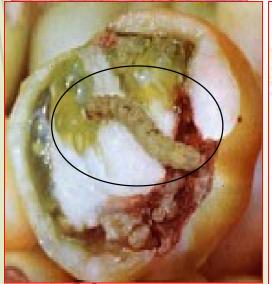
- **▶** Damage starts from flowering.
- ► Eggs are laid on young leaves which are damaged by young larvae.
- ► Later they migrate to developing fruits.
- ►They bore the fruits with half of the body outside fruit.
- One larva feeds on many fruits, causing 5 50% losses.

# Fruit borer

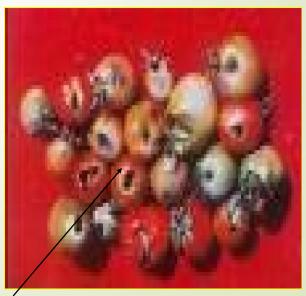








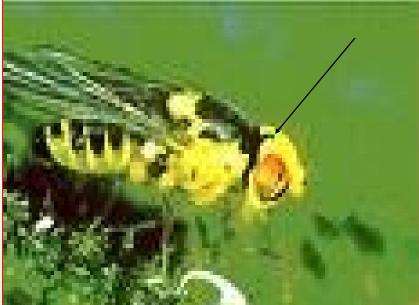




### Serpentine leaf miner Liriomyza trifolii

- An recent introduction, and attacks several crops.
- The larvae mine into leaves particularly basal leaves 10- 15% loss, causing in severe cases.
- Application of granular insecticide increases incidence.





#### Fruit sucking moth: Othreis fullonica

Adult moths puncture ripening fruit and suck juice.

Damaged area becomes soft and rots & close examination reveals pin hole.

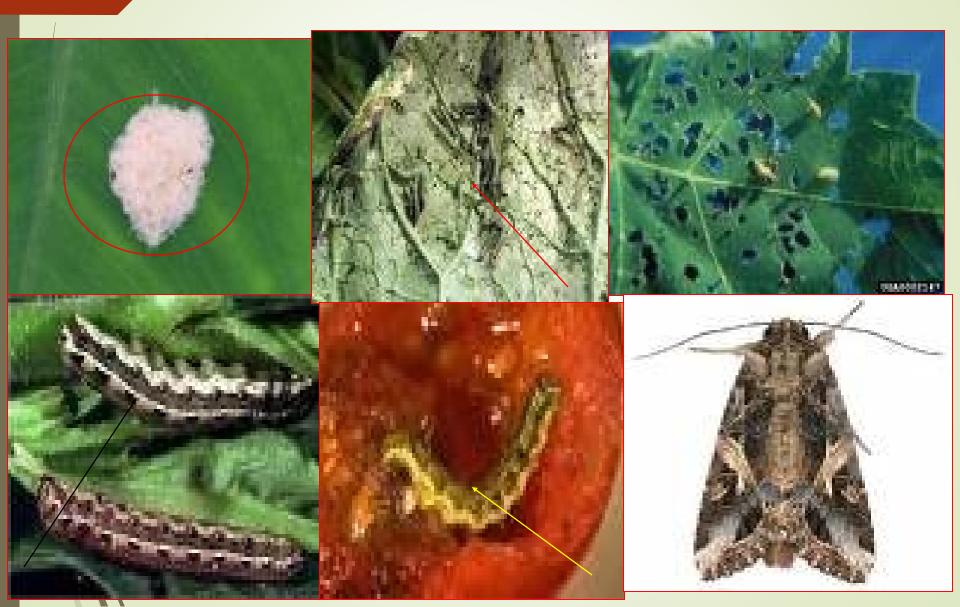




# Leaf eating caterpillars Spodoptera litura Spodoptera exigua

- Eggs are laid in clusters. Young larvae gregariously feed and skeletonize the leaves.
- Large larvae bore into fruits.
- Caterpillar act as defoliator and once fruits are formed fruits, borers in to fruits

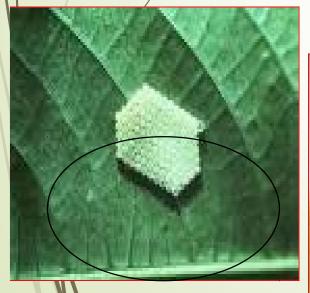
# Leaf eating caterpillars



## **Bugs**: Nezara viridula

Sometimes green flat bugs gregariously feed on tomato leaves.





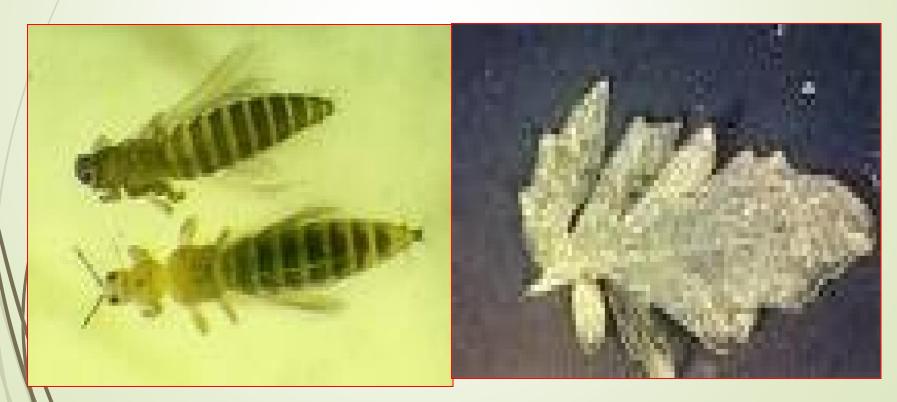




#### Thrips: Thrips tabaci

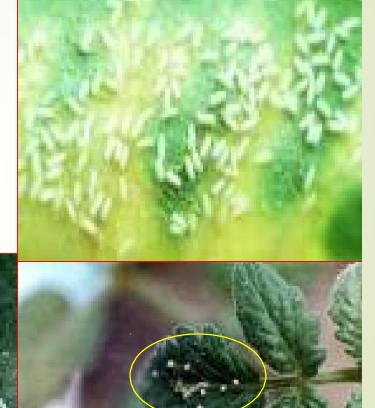
#### Calliothrips indicus

Nymphs and adults lacerate leaves. Leaves may become pale and silver shines appear on affected leaves.



### White flies: Bemisia tabaci

- **★Suck sap from leaves and transmit leaf curl virus, particularly during summer.**
- \*Loss may be even 80-90%.



### Mealy bugs: Ferrisia virgata

- White mealy patches are seen on plants.
- **Stunt plant growth by sucking sap.**







# Cut worms Agrotis ipsilon Agrotis segetum

- ➡The larvae damage the crop at initial stages by cutting young plants at ground level and feeding on shoot resulting in stunted plant growth.
- After tuberization, they feed by boring and nibbling into tubers.
- About 40% plants are damaged.

# Cut worms









# Aphids: Myzus persicae Aphis gossypii

- Aphids suck sap from potato foliage causing leaves to curl downward.
- The leaves become yellow and die.
- These two species are responsible for transmission of potato viruses as a vector.

# Potato Aphids



#### Mites: Hemitarsonemus latus

- The leaves roll inward, showing oily spots on upper surfaces.
- The lower surface gets sooty appearance. The leaves ultimately become bronze in colour and wither.
- The plants become stunted and finally die.
- ➤ Heavy mite infestation might cause 50% loss in yield.
- The damage starts from the apex leaf and goes downward.

# Mite



#### Tuber moth: Pthorimaea operculella

- ➤ Larvae of insect make mines in tender leaves, petiole and stem.
- They also mine into tubers and form dirty looking silk lined galleries.
- In stores, saprophytes grow in damaged tubers and rot sets in.
- ➤ About 30-70% damage in tubers in storage and o-45% tuber damage in field.

# Tuber moth



# MANAGEMENT

#### **IPM TOOLS**

#### "PLANT RESISTANT"

Development and use of crop varieties resistant or tolerant to one or more pest species is economically inexpensive and environmentally sound.

#### "CULTURAL CONTROL"

Crop rotation, crop residues destruction, tillage of soil, variation in the time of sowing or planting or harvesting, pruning or thinning, sanitation, water management, trap crops and plant spacing.

#### "MECHANICAL CONTROL"

Use of screens, barriers, traps, suction devices, collecting matterial, hand destruction, crushing and grinding.

#### "PHYSICAL CONTROL"

Use of heat, cold, sound, regulating moisture or relative humidity, light trapping, light regulation and using physical toxicant such as activated kaolin.

#### "BIOLOGICAL CONTROL"

- ➤ Protection and encouragement of natural enemies.
- ➤ Introduction, artificial increase and colonization of specific parasites and predators.
- ➤ Propagation and dissemination specific bacterial, viral, fungal and protozoan diseases.

#### "CHEMICAL CONTROL"

Use of chemical pesticides.

#### **CULTURAL CONTROL**

- Grow trap crop African marigold as intercrop with tomato to attract fruit borer.
- Pest free seed material is used to check infestation of tuber moth.
- Earthing up of tuber crop minimizes the attack of potato tuber moth.
- Deep ploughing during summer expose the pupa in the field.
- Flooding the fields to manage cutworms.
- Use of resistant varieties like Parker, Shakti, Jyoti.
- Late planting of potato crop from normal date of sowing will reduced the infestation of whitefly. (AICRP).

- Tuber treatment with Imidacloprid (0.004%) for 10 minites will reduced the whitefly infestation.
- Potato intercrop with Onion (1:1) will reduce the Aphid population.
- Cover the tubers with Lantana leaves
- (2cm thick layer) there will be minimum damage and rottage by tuber moth in storage
- > (AICRP)
- Sprinkler irrigation in potato crop will reduced the infestation of PTM.

# MECHANICAL AND PHYSICAL CONTROL

- ➡ Hand picking caterpillers and kill them, in case of tomato fruit borer.
- ◆Use of yellow sticky trap coated with castor oil to trap whiteflies.
- → Grow Oat crop as barrier against whitefly.
  (AICRP))
- Use of sticky traps where stick glue is pasted to trap aphids.
- Cold storage of tubers will control the tuber moth infestation.
- Use of Light traps in field to attract tomato fruit porer adult and in storage to attract tuber moth.

#### **BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF APHIDS**

- >Aphelinus sp. Parasitises upto 100% at Simla and Aphidius colemani upto 70% at Bangaluru.
- Coccinellids Coccinella septempunctata and cheilomenes sexmaculata are perdominent.







#### Fruit borer

- Trichogramma spp. are capable of providing up to 80% egg parasitism.
- The Campoletis chlrideae parasitizes up to 33% larvae.
- During rainy season

  Hexamermis spp. are capable

  of parasitizing up to 40%

  larvae.





#### Potato tuber moth

- ➤ Bracon gelechiae parasitized 30-33% larvae.
- Predatory mite *Blattisocius* keegani takes heavy toll of eggs.
- Fanulosis virus and Bacillus thuringiensis var.
- kurstaki have been found effective.





#### **Cut worms**

- ➤ Cotesia ruficrus, Macrogaster similis and Steinernema sp. have frequently been recorded in plains.
- >Enicospilus medarius is abundant in Gujarat.
- Macrocentrus collaris is most comman parasitoid in Shimla hills and Kodagu.

#### **Chemical control**

PEST

Aphids

Tuber moth

Cut-worms

**CHEMICAL** 

Phorate@10kg/ha or

Dimethoate@1.2L/ha or

Monocrotophos 40 EC

Carbaryl 50 WP@2kg/ha

or Monocrotophos@1.5L/ha

Quinalphos dust@250g/q on stored seed.

Carbaryl 50 WP@2kg/ha or

Chlorpyriphos 20 EC@2.5L/ha.

#### Pest

Fruit borer

Serpentine leaf-miner

Leaf eating caterpillars

Fruit sucking moths

Mites

#### **CHEMICAL**

Endosulfan 0.07% or

Dichlorvos 0.1%.

NSKE 4% or neem

formulation 2-3ml/L.

Cypermethrin 0.0125% or

NSKE 4% when larvae are

small.

Quinalphos/chlorpyriphos

0.05% or Monocrotophos

0.05%.

Dicofol/Ethion 0.05% or

neem oil 1%.

#### **PEST**

**CHEMICAL** 

White flies

Triazophos 0.05%

Mealy bugs

Spray fish oil rosin soap.

Bugs

Monocrotophos/Phosphami don/Dimethoate/Oxymethyl demeton 0.05%.

**Thrips** 

Neem formulations

2-3ml/L.

#### CONCLUSION

- Use of IPM techniques for control of solanaceous insects pests.
- Growing of resistant variety and trap cropping.
- Use of Bio-pesticides or microbial pesticides viz., Ha- NPV, Sl-NPV, Aa -NPV against lepidopteron insects pests.
- Use of safer insecticides for control of solanaceous insects pests.

