Pesticides are Poisons
TAKE PRECAUTIONS

PRECAUTIONS

- Avoid direct contact with skin, eyes and clothing when mixing or applying.
- Do not inhale molluscicides, or spray mist.
- Do not eat, drink or smoke during work.
- Wear protective clothing, overall, impermeable gloves and boots.
- After work, shower and wash clothing

Guyana Rice Development Board

For more information contact GRDB, Rice Research Station

OR

The Extension Officers in your respective Regions.

GUYANA RICE DEVELOPMENT BOARD
116-117 Cowan Street, Kingston, Georgetown.
Tel: 592-225-8717 Fax: 592-225-6486
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GUYANA RICE DEVELOPMENT BOARD

Burma Rice Research

Contents subject to periodic review

Rice Snail Management

BACKGROUND

The Golden Apple Snail, also known as 'crekete' (Pomacea sp.), belongs to the Ampullariidae family. It is a tropical and sub-tropical fresh-water snail and is considered to be well adapted to life in alternating wet-land and dry-land habitats such as rice fields.

In Guyana, the golden apple snail is considered a major early season pests during the first three weeks of the crop. After this the crop growth is typically greater than the rate of snail damage.

The adult snail is brown and can live from 2– 6 years. Females can lay from 50—500 eggs. The egg masses are bright pink in color and turn light pink to white as they approached hatching. Eggs hatch within 7—15 days.

DAMAGED CAUSED

Pomacea sp. feed on a range of hosts and a have high dispersal potential via water-ways and irrigation canals. They prefer soft plant tissues; therefore, rice is only vulnerable during the first three weeks after sowing. The snail eats young and emerging rice plants and can completely destroy a crop during establishment. Snail damage can be recognized by missing plants and cut leaves floating on the water surface.

MANAGEMENT

Cultural Control

- Place screens on the main irrigation water inlet and outlet to prevent the entry.
- Snails are active in standing water and thus there is need to ensure good land leveling and field drainage to help reduce infestation and damage to the crop.
- After the final land preparation, construct small drains, which will serve as focal nesting points for snails, making manual collection or killing easier
- Place sticks to attract adults for egg laying. Handpick snails and crush egg masses. This is best done in the morning and afternoon when snails are most active.

Biological Control

Red ants are naturally occurring organisms that feed on the eggs of snails. The flesh of snails is also eaten by humans.

Chemical Control

Chemical control is required if other practices failed.

Chemicals that have shown effectiveness against this pest are:

- Super Crekete Powder and Crekete Powder @ 800g-1000g/ha (324—405g / ac).

Chemicals are to be applied using a knapsack sprayer 24 hours before sowing of pre-germinated seeds. Best results are obtained if the above rates are applied correctly.

Farmers using molluscicides not listed should contact the Extension Officer in their area for advice on the rate of application or call the Rice Research Station in Burma.