

Reference: - eagri.org

# **Pests of Pomegranate**

### **Major Pest**

1.	Anar Butterfly/Fruit Borer	Duodorrix Isocrates/Rapala varuna
2.	Castor Semilooper	Achaea janata
3.	Fruitfly	Bactrocera zonata
4.	Fruit Borer	Conogethes punctiferalis
5.	Aphid	Aphis punicae

### **Minor Pest**

1.	Whitefly	Siphonimus phillyreae
2.	Mealybug	Ferrisia virgata
3.	Thrips	Retithrips syriacus, Rhipiphorothrips cruentatus
4.	Slug caterpillar	Parasa lepida
5	Hairy caterpillar	Euproctis fraterna,
6.	Eriophyid mite	Aceria granati
7.	Red spider mite	Tetranychus punicae
8.	Bagworm	Clania crameri

## 1. Anar butterfly / Fruit borer: Virachola



Host range: Aonla, apple, ber, citrus, guava, litchi, loquat, peach, mulberry, pear, sapota, tamarind.

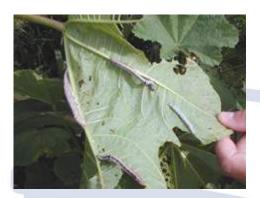
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#### **Damage symptoms**

- Larvae bore inside the developing fruits and feed on pulp and seeds just before the rind exhibiting round bore holes on fruit.
- Infested fruits are also attacked by bacteria and fungi, which ultimately fall off and give an offensive smell.

### 2. Castor semi looper: Achaea Janata



Host range: Castor, rose, pomegranate, tea, citrus, mango,

#### **Damage symptoms**

- The damage is caused by both the caterpillar and adult moth.
- The caterpillars feed voraciously on castor leaves.
- Feeding from the edges inwards, leave behind only the mid rib and the stalk. The damage is maximum in August, September and October.
- The adult of this species are fruit sucking moths and cause serious damage to citrus crop.

#### Management

- Dusting the infested crop with 2% parathion dust @ 20-25 kg/ha.
- Spray endosulfan 35 EC 2.0 L or carbaryl 50% WP 2 kg in 1000-1200 L water/ha.
- Conserve braconid parasitoid Microplitis ophiusae since it keeps the pest under chec.

#### 3. Fruit fly: Bactrocera dorsalis

**Host range**: Mango, guava, peach, apricot, cherry, pear, ber, citrus, banana, papaya, avocado, passion fruit, coffee, melons, jack fruit, strawberry.

#### **Damage Symptoms**

- Maggots destroy and convert the pulp into bad smelling, discoloured semi liquid mass unfit for human consumption.
- Infestation results in fruit drop and liquid oozes out from the fruit upon pressing.

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### Management

- The infested and fallen fruits should be carefully disposed of.
- Apply a bait-spray of malathion 50 EC @ 2 ml/L with molasses or jaggery (10 g/L) before ripening.

### 4. Fruit borer: Conogethes punctiferalis

Host range: Cardamom, castor, jack, guava

#### **Damage**

• Larva bores into the young fruits which dry up and fall prematurely, bore holes plugged with excreta.

#### Management

- Collect and destroy the damaged plant parts.
- Use light trap 1/HA to monitor the activity of adults.
- Spray malathion 50 EC at 3 L or endosulfan 3 L or dimethoate 30 EC
- 3 L in 1500 2000 L water per ha, two rounds, one at flower formation and next at fruit set.

### 5. Aphid: Aphis punicae

#### **Damage**

• Both nymphs and adults infest the leaves causing curling, yellowing of leaves and wilting of terminal shoots and premature fruit drop.

#### Management

- Spray dimethoate 30 EC or monocrotophos 36 SL ml or Methyl demeton 25 EC at 750 ml or imidachloprid 200 SL 125 ml per ha in 500 1000 L off water per ha
- Apply carbofuran 3 G at 33 kg per ha