

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

1. Anar butterfly / Fruit borer: *Virachola*



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

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 ophiuse* since it keeps the pest under check.

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.



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