

## STUDIES ON SOME FARMERS' PRACTICES AND COMBINATIONS OF MALATHION AND NEEM SEED POWDER MANAGEMENT OPTIONS ON STORED SORGHUM AND MAIZE INSECT PESTS AT BAKO, WEST SHOA, ETHIOPIA

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### ABSTRACT

Some farmers' practices (layering of tef over sorghum with 20% proportion, mixing sorghum with tef at 30% w/w, mixing sorghum with partially grinded hot pepper at the rate of 2% w/w and 1% w/w) including Malathion 5% D and untreated check were evaluated against stored sorghum insect pests at Bako Research Center, Western Ethiopia, from 2010/11-2011/12G.C. Besides, combinations of different rates of Malathion 5% D and Neem seed powder were evaluated against maize weevils in the laboratory at Bako from February - July 2012. Number and weight of damaged grains significantly ( $p < 0.05$ ) higher in layering of tef over sorghum with 20% w/w, mixing sorghum with *tef* at 30% w/w and untreated check than the other treatments. Similarly, percent weight losses significantly ( $p < 0.05$ ) lower in mixing sorghum with hot pepper at 2% and 1% w/w than the other treatments, which was similar to standard check. As to combine treatments, mortality in all of the treatment combinations ranged from 3.33-100%, while that of the untreated check ranged from 0-5.33% following 90 days after infestation. Similarly, the number of progeny weevils emerged, percentages of grain damaged and seed weight losses in all of the treatment combinations were significantly lower than that of the untreated check 90 days after infestation. Significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ) higher percentages of mortality, lower percentages of damaged grains and seed weight losses were observed in the Malathion dust at 40% and 50% combined with neem seed powder than that of the other treatments next to the standard check 156 days after infestation. From these studies, it can be concluded that mixing sorghum with partially grinded hot pepper at the rate of 2% w/w and 1% w/w can be used to protect stored sorghum insect pests and combinations of malathion and neem seed powder at 40%+20% and 50%+10% can be used to protect maize from the maize weevil.

**Keywords:** Neem seed powder, Farmers practices, Malathion 5% D, stored sorghum and maize insect pest

### INTRODUCTION

The absence of maize and sorghum storage insect pest management technologies forces the growers to sell their produces immediately after harvest (Abraham, 1991; Emanu and Assefa, 1998). Consequently, farmers receive low market prices for surplus grain they produce (Abraham, 1991; Beyene *et al.*, 1996). Although the use of pesticides are one means of protecting stored grain, the associated side effects on the environment and human health, development of genetically resistance insect strains, erratic supply and prohibitive costs have become a major concern and thus given impetus to the search for alternative methods of pest control (Abraham, 1991). Various methods are used to control storage pests by farmers in sorghum and maize producing areas such as mixing sorghum and maize with small seeded

cereals such as tef and finger millet. Others were observed to mix the produce with partially grinded hot pepper. A sort of layering by putting one crop over the other, the produce that is liable to attack being in the middle and the other at bottom and upper portion is also practiced by some farmers. All these methods of storage pest control options seem to be good for the control of stored sorghum or maize pests but they were not proved for efficacy. Farmers' practices should be supported by research, as their adoption rate could be very high and for wider applicability.

In addition, use of locally available plant products and vegetable oils are other options to reduce reliance on synthetic chemicals. A major limitation to the practical utilization of locally available plant products and vegetable oil are their high rates required to effectively disinfest grains (Don-Pedro, 1989). The possibility of using reduced levels of plant products in combination with each other in

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simple mixtures as a means of making their use may be more attractive and effective (Don-Pedro, 1989). Integrating one control strategy with another sustainable pest control method would and may provide long lasting solution to losses in storage for the reason of their synergetic effects (Dobie, 1977). The importance of combining two or more control options may minimize risk and costs of chemical, reduce resistance development against the treatments and increases effectiveness of the treatments.

Therefore, the objectives of the studies were to evaluate the effectiveness of some pest control practices used by farmers in controlling stored sorghum and maize insect pest, to determine the combined effects of malathion dust and neem seed powder against the maize weevil, *Sitophilus zeamais* Mostch on maize and to determine the minimum effective rate(s) of the combinations that can provide adequate protection to maize against the pest.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

Two experiments were conducted at Bako Agricultural Research Center, West Shoa, Bako. The first experiment was conducted from 2010/11 –2011/12 GC cropping seasons on traditional but modified storage structures (*gotera*) and the second was also conducted from February to July 2012 GC in the laboratory at Bako Agricultural Research Center.

### Evaluation of some farmers' practices against stored sorghum insect pests in Field conditions

Twenty-seven quintals (27) of sorghum (local variety Bobe) and three (3) quintals of tef were used to conduct a year experiment. Six treatments ( Layering of tef over sorghum with 20% w/w, Mixing with tef at 30% w/w, Mixing with partially grinded chilies (hot pepper) at the rate of 2% w/w, Mixing with partially grinded chilies (hot pepper) at the rate of 1% w/w, Insecticide (malathion 5% D) at the rate of 50g/qt and Control) were evaluated against stored sorghum insect pests.

The experiment was laid out in randomized complete block design replicated three times. Plastic sheets were used to separate sorghum from tef in the layering treatments. Sample size of 350 gm /plot or *gotera* was taken from each treatment using compartmented spear and

assess the parameters from each treatment. Data were collected for number of live and dead insects infesting the grain in each treatment, number of damaged and undamaged grains, weight of damaged and undamaged grains and percent weight losses/sample. Evaluation was made after 60, 120 and 180 days of storage. Percent weight losses were calculated by using the following formula:

$$\% \text{Weight loss} = \frac{(W_u \times N_d) - (W_d \times N_u)}{W_u \times (N_d + N_u)} \times 100$$

Where,  $W_u$  = Weight of undamaged grains,  $W_d$  = Weight of damaged grains,  $N_u$  = Number of undamaged grains,  $N_d$  = Number of damaged grains. Combined analysis was done for two years (2003/2004 and 2004/2005) using SAS version 6.12 computer software

### Efficacy of Malathion 5% D with Neem seed powder against *Sitophilus zeamais* on stored maize in the laboratory

#### Preparation of experimental materials

Maize hybrid BH-540 was obtained from the BARC maize research program and multiplied in the center to obtain the  $F_2$  generation seeds in sufficient amount for the experiments. Neem seed powder was obtained from Melka worer research center. Malathion 5% D was purchased from the market.

#### Establishments of culture of weevils

Maize weevils were collected from the Bako Agricultural Research Center maize store and reared in the laboratory where the experiment was conducted. The weevils were cultured on BH-540 maize hybrid which is most commonly grown by local farmers. Seeds were cleaned and kept in a deep freezer at  $-20 \pm 2^\circ\text{C}$  for two weeks in order to disinfest. The seeds were then kept for two weeks at the experimental conditions for acclimatization (Abraham, 2003) and adjusted to moisture content of 12 to 13% before use by absorption of atmospheric humidity. Two Kg seeds were placed in three liter plastic containers covered with perforated lids. About 600 unsexed adult weevils were introduced into each of the plastic containers. After two weeks of oviposition, all adult weevils were removed, and the seeds were kept for progeny emergence. The average developmental time of the maize weevil on maize in the laboratory condition is about 42 days (Abraham, 1991). Therefore progeny

emergence was monitored daily and those emerged on the same day were transferred to fresh seed in plastic containers with lids and kept under the experimental conditions until a sufficient number of weevils was obtained.

### Applications of the treatments

Maize kernels were cleaned and disinfested following the same procedure as above. The moisture content of the kernels was adjusted by slow drying under shade or by adding water as recommended by Wright *et al.* (1989). Two hundred gram maize kernels were put in 250 cm<sup>3</sup> capacity glass jars with brass screen lids that permit ventilation. The treatments (0% (0 gm) + 100% (4 gm), 10% (0.01 gm) + 50% (2 gm), 20% (0.02 gm) + 40% (1.6 gm), 30% (0.03 gm) + 30% ( 1.2 gm), 40% (0.04 gm) + 20% ( 0.8 gm), 50% (0.05 gm) + 10% ( 0.4 gm), 100% (0.1 gm) + 0 % and untreated check) were then applied to the maize kernels. The treated maize kernels were thoroughly mixed to ensure uniform distribution of treatments. Adult maize weevils were introduced into each jar at the ratio of one weevil to two to three (1: 2-3 gm) maize kernels (50 weevils/ 200 gm maize). The treatments were arranged in a completely randomized block design (RBD) with three replications. The temperature and relative humidity of the laboratory were recorded daily. In order to investigate the persistence of the treatments used, the same number of weevils (50 weevils/ 200g seed) was re-introduced into the grain following 90 days after the treatment application. The same data were collected 156 days after re-infestation

### Data Collection

**Adult weevil Mortality:** Mortality was assessed 2, 4, 6, 12, and 18 days after treatment application. The assessment periods selected were based on an earlier report by Dobie (1984). Dead adult weevils were removed and counted during each assessment.

**F<sub>1</sub> progeny emergence:** Thirty days after application of treatment, after removing dead and alive weevils, the seeds were kept under the same conditions to assess emergence of F<sub>1</sub> progenies. The number of F<sub>1</sub> progeny weevils emerged was recorded every day for 60 days. Emerged adults were removed from the jar on each assessment day and continued until all progeny emerged.

### Seed damage and weight loss

Ninety days after the introduction of adult maize weevils, the number and weight of damaged and undamaged seeds were recorded. Seed weight loss was calculated by using the count and weigh method (Boxall, 1986).

*Seed germination:* In order to assess the viability of seeds, seed germination was tested using 100 randomly picked seeds from undamaged grains after separation of damaged and undamaged grains in each jar. The seeds were placed on a moistened filter paper in plastic Petri dishes and the number of germinated seeds was recorded after ten days.

### Statistical analysis

The number of dead weevils in each replicate was converted into proportions of the total number of adult weevils introduced and expressed as percentage. Mortality data were corrected for natural control mortality using Abbott's correction formula;

$$\%CM = \frac{(\%T - \%C)}{(100 - \%C)} * 100$$

Where CM is corrected mortality, T is mortality in treated seed and C is mortality in untreated seed (Abbot, 1925). Control mortality did not exceed 10%. Damaged seeds were expressed as a percentage of the total number of seeds in each replicate. Weight loss data were also expressed as percentages. Percentage mortality was angular transformed, while number of progeny weevils emerged, percentage grain damaged and grain weight losses were square root transformed prior to statistical analysis, in order to stabilize the variances. Percentage of germination was not transformed. All data were subjected to analysis of variance. Differences among means were determined using Student-Newman-Keuls Test. Back-transformed means are presented. Data were analyzed using SAS Version 6.12 computer software.

## RESULTS

### Field study at Bako

Significant differences were recorded among some farmers' practices on number of weevils and *Sitotroga cerealella* (Oliver) dead and alive (Table 1). Significantly (P<0.05) higher numbers of dead weevils were observed in the untreated check than the other treatments. Similarly number of weevils alive was significantly (P<0.05) higher in the layering of

tef over sorghum with 20% w/w, mixing sorghum with tef at 30% w/w and in the untreated check than the other treatments. Numbers of *S. cerealella* (Oliver) dead and alive were significantly higher in the untreated check followed by layering of tef over sorghum with 20% proportions and mixing sorghum with tef at 30% w/w. However, significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ) lower numbers of *Sitotroga cerealella* (Oliver) dead and alive were recorded in mixing sorghum with partially grinded hot pepper at the rate of 2% w/w and 1% w/w and in the standard check (Table 1).

Variations were observed among some farmers practices evaluated against storage insect pests of sorghum with respect to number of grains damaged and undamaged, weight of grains damaged and undamaged and percent weight losses (Table 2). Number and weight of grain damaged were significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ) higher in the layering of tef over sorghum with 20% w/w, mixing sorghum with tef at 30% w/w and in the untreated check than the other treatments. Similarly number and weight of grains undamaged were significantly higher in mixing sorghum with partially grinded hot pepper at the rate of 2% w/w, 1% w/w and malathion 5% D than the other treatments (Table 2). Percent weight losses were significantly lower in mixing sorghum with partially grinded chilies (hot pepper) at the rate of 2% w/w and 1% w/w, and malathion 5% D than in the other treatments (Table 2). Species of insect pests infesting the free choice test treatments are indicated in the Table 3. Among the species recorded *Tribolium spp*, *Sitophilus spp* and *Sitotroga cerealella* (Oliver) are the most abundant species followed by *Carpophilus spp* and *Cryptolestes spp*. The other species such as *Lasioderma serricorne* (F), *Oryzaephilus spp* and *Rhizopertha dominica* (F) were appeared rarely.

#### Laboratory study at Bako

Combinations of different rates of Malathion dust and neem seed powder caused higher mortality than the untreated control (Table 4). The parent weevil mortality was significantly ( $p < 0.01$ ) higher in T<sub>5</sub>, T<sub>6</sub> and in the standard check than that of the other treatments following two and four days after infestation. Six days after infestation, the percentages of mortality were significantly lower in T<sub>2</sub> and T<sub>3</sub> than the other treatment combinations and followed by T<sub>5</sub> and T<sub>6</sub>. The rates of weevil

mortality reached 100% in T<sub>1</sub>, T<sub>4</sub>, T<sub>5</sub>, T<sub>6</sub> and T<sub>7</sub> after 12 dai (Table 4). However, 48% and 66% of mortality were recorded in T<sub>3</sub> and T<sub>2</sub>, respectively, following 12 dai and the difference between these treatments was significant. The rates of mortality reached 100% in all of the treatments except for the untreated check following 18 dai (Table 4). The number of progeny weevils emerged, percentages of grain damaged and grain weight losses recorded in the combined treatments were significantly lower than that of in the untreated control (Table 5). The differences among the treatment combinations were not significant for the indicated parameters (Table 5). Significant differences were observed in weevil mortality among the different combinations of Malathion dust and neem seed powder (Table 6). The percentages of mortality were significantly higher in T<sub>5</sub> and T<sub>6</sub> than that of the other treatment combinations following all of the days considered. Mortality in the untreated check was the lowest. The percentages of mortality were significantly lower in T<sub>2</sub>, T<sub>3</sub> and T<sub>4</sub> than T<sub>5</sub> and T<sub>6</sub> following two, four, six and 12 days after infestation. Following 18 dai, the rate of mortality T<sub>2</sub>, T<sub>3</sub> and T<sub>4</sub> was significantly lower than in all of the other combinations (Table 6). Different rates of Malathion dust and neem seed powder combinations had varying degree of residual effects in terms of the number of progeny weevil emergence, percentage of grain damaged, grain weight losses and seed germination (Table 7). The number of progeny weevil emergence, percentages of grain damaged and grain weight losses in all treatments were significantly ( $P < 0.01$ ) lower than neem seed powder alone and in the untreated check. The neem seed powder treatment was found to be weak in stopping the development progeny weevils as it was with the second large progeny emerged. The lowest progeny emergence and seed damage were recorded in T<sub>7</sub> (Table 7). The number of progeny weevils emerged, percentages of grain damaged and grain weight losses were significantly lower in T<sub>5</sub> and T<sub>6</sub> than T<sub>1</sub>, T<sub>2</sub>, T<sub>3</sub> and T<sub>4</sub>. The differences among T<sub>2</sub>, T<sub>3</sub> and T<sub>4</sub> as well as between T<sub>5</sub> and T<sub>6</sub> were not significant for the above-mentioned parameters. The percentages of seed germination were significantly ( $p < 0.01$ ) higher in all of the treatments than in the untreated check (Table-7).

**Table 1. Effects of some farmers' practices, on numbers of weevil and *Sitotroga* dead and alive at Bako, west shoa, Ethiopia (combined ANOVA of data of 2010/11 and 2011/12 cropping seasons)**

Treatments (farmers practices)	Number of weevil/sample		Number of <i>Sitotroga</i> /samples	
	Dead	Alive	Dead	Alive
1 Layering of tef over sorghum with 20% w/w	79.54 <sup>b</sup>	85.37 <sup>a</sup>	82.35 <sup>bc</sup>	29.94 <sup>b</sup>
2 Mixing with <i>tef</i> at 30% w/w	79.71 <sup>b</sup>	84.60 <sup>a</sup>	97.27 <sup>b</sup>	27.40 <sup>b</sup>
3 Mixing with partially groundchilies (hot pepper) at the rate of 2% w/w.	94.40 <sup>b</sup>	33.52 <sup>b</sup>	51.78 <sup>de</sup>	3.07 <sup>c</sup>
4 Mixing with partially groundchilies (hot pepper) at the rate of 1% w/w.	90.35 <sup>b</sup>	41.92 <sup>b</sup>	71.63 <sup>cd</sup>	3.79 <sup>c</sup>
5 Insecticide (malathion 5% D) at the rate of 50g/qt	97.71 <sup>b</sup>	<b>12.25<sup>c</sup></b>	33.16 <sup>e</sup>	0.92 <sup>c</sup>
6 Control (untreated check)	217.56 <sup>a</sup>	82.64 <sup>a</sup>	223.15 <sup>a</sup>	58.81 <sup>a</sup>
<b>CV%</b>	<b>10.54</b>	<b>21.16</b>	<b>15.57</b>	<b>55.22</b>
<b>Lsd</b>	<b>19.56</b>	<b>20.44</b>	<b>24.97</b>	<b>19.43</b>

Means followed by similar letter within a column are not significantly different from each other at 5% level of probability (Student new man kewls range test (SNK))

**Table 2. Effect of some farmers practices on number of grains damaged and undamaged, weight of grains damaged and undamaged and percent weight losses in stored sorghum insect pests at Bako, west Shoa, Ethiopia (combined ANOVA of 2010/11 and 2011/12 data).**

Trt. no	Treatments (farmers practices)	Number of grains/sample		Weight of grains/ samples		Percent weight losses
		Damaged	Undamaged	Damaged (gm)	Undamaged (gm)	
1	Layering of tef over sorghum at 20% w/w	421.41 <sup>a</sup>	10472.19 <sup>bc</sup>	4.17 <sup>a</sup>	225.84 <sup>c</sup>	2.07 <sup>a</sup>
2	Mixing with <i>tef</i> at 30% w/w	393.91 <sup>a</sup>	111150.60 <sup>b</sup>	3.75 <sup>a</sup>	221.95 <sup>c</sup>	1.78 <sup>a</sup>
3	Mixing with partially groundchilies (hot pepper) at the rate of 2% w/w.	216.24 <sup>b</sup>	14300.01 <sup>a</sup>	2.71 <sup>b</sup>	335.58 <sup>a</sup>	0.68 <sup>b</sup>
4	Mixing with partially groundchilies (hot pepper) at the rate of 1% w/w.	208.68 <sup>b</sup>	13300.84 <sup>a</sup>	2.64 <sup>b</sup>	304.83 <sup>b</sup>	0.74 <sup>b</sup>
5	Insecticide (malathion 5% D) at the rate of 50g /qt	199.86 <sup>b</sup>	14340.98 <sup>a</sup>	2.37 <sup>b</sup>	332.90 <sup>a</sup>	0.66 <sup>b</sup>
6	Control (check)	414.14 <sup>a</sup>	9692.76 <sup>c</sup>	4.25 <sup>a</sup>	217.69 <sup>c</sup>	2.23 <sup>a</sup>
<b>CV%</b>		<b>13.94</b>	<b>5.21</b>	<b>16.40</b>	<b>5.10</b>	<b>24.35</b>
<b>Lsd</b>		<b>73.37</b>	<b>1083</b>	<b>0.93</b>	<b>23.72</b>	<b>0.56</b>

Means followed by similar letter within a column are not significantly different from each other at 5% level of probability (SNK)

**Table 3. Species of insect pests recorded in stored sorghum at Bako Agricultural Research center/ sample**

Order/species	Common name	Status/abundance of the pest in the storage	Types of insect Pests/beneficial
<b>Colleoptera</b>			
Tribolium spp			
Sitophilus spp	Maize /rice weevils	Very common	Pest
Carpophilus spp	Maize /rice weevils	Very common	Pest
Cryptolestes spp.	Sap beetles	Common	Pest
Lasioderma serricorine(F)	Flat grain beetles	Common	Pest
Oryzaephilus spp	Saw toothed grain beetles	Rare	Pest
Rhizopertha dominica(F)	Lesser grain borer	Rare	Pest
<b>Lepidoptera</b>	Red/confused flower beetles	Rare	Pest
Sitotroga cerealella (Oliver)			
<b>Hymenoptera</b>			
Parasitic wasp	Angoumois grain moth	Very common	Pest
<b>Archnida</b>			
Acarus siro (L)			Beneficial
	Flour mite		Pest

**Table 4. The effects of different rates of Malathion 5% D and neem seed powder combinations on weevil mortality.**

Treatment	Percent weevil mortality				
	2 dai	4 dai	6 dai	12 dai	18 dai
T <sub>1</sub>	3.33(10.4) ± 0.67 <sup>d</sup>	8.67(19.05) ± 0.67 <sup>c</sup>	87.33(69.24) ± 1.33 <sup>b</sup>	100.00(89.50) ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>	100.00(89.50) ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>2</sub>	3.33(10.4) ± 0.67 <sup>d</sup>	18.67(24.53) ± 3.27 <sup>bc</sup>	45.33(42.31) ± 4.4c <sup>d</sup>	66.00(59.46) ± 5.02 <sup>b</sup>	100.00(89.50) ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>3</sub>	5.33(13.3) ± 0.67 <sup>c</sup>	10.00(18.38) ± 1.15 <sup>c</sup>	36.67(37.28) ± 0.67 <sup>d</sup>	48.00(43.87) ± 1.15 <sup>c</sup>	100.00(89.50) ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>4</sub>	3.33(10.4) ± 0.67 <sup>d</sup>	10.67(19.05) ± 0.67 <sup>c</sup>	86.00(68.09) ± 1.15 <sup>b</sup>	100.00(89.50) ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>	100.00(89.50) ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>5</sub>	12.00(20.23) ± 1.15 <sup>b</sup>	31.33(34.05) ± 0.67 <sup>b</sup>	56.67(48.85) ± 0.69 <sup>c</sup>	100.00(89.50) ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>	100.00(89.50) ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>6</sub>	10.67(19.05) ± 0.67 <sup>b</sup>	32.00(34.45) ± 4.16 <sup>b</sup>	57.33(49.26) ± 4.05 <sup>c</sup>	100.00(89.50) ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>	100.00(89.50) ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>7</sub>	22.67(28.44) ± 0.67 <sup>a</sup>	77.33(61.60) ± 0.67 <sup>a</sup>	100.00(89.50) ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>	100.00(89.50) ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>	100.00(89.50) ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>8</sub>	0.00 (0.41) ± 0.00 <sup>e</sup>	0.00(0.41) ± 0.00 <sup>d</sup>	2.00(6.69) ± 1.15 <sup>e</sup>	5.33(13.17) ± 1.33 <sup>d</sup>	6.67(14.80) ± 1.33 <sup>b</sup>
CV %	10.25	27.32	6.25	11.79	1.16
Lsd	2.77	13.74	6.02	14.82	1.02

Means followed by the same letter within a column are not significantly different from each other at 5% level of probability (Student-Newman-Keul's Range Test). dai=days after infestation, T=treatment. Values in the parenthesis are angular transformed value.



**Table 5. Effects of different rates of Malathion dust and Neem seed powder combinations on progeny emerged, percentages of damaged grain, grain weight losses and seed germination after three months of treatment application and infestation.**

Treatment	Number of progeny weevils emerged	Percent damaged grain	Percent grain weight loss	Percent seed germination
T <sub>1</sub>	1.33(1.34) ± 0.33 <sup>b</sup>	0.25(0.86) ± 0.01 <sup>b</sup>	0.013(0.72) ± 0.00 <sup>b</sup>	95.00 ± 0.58 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>2</sub>	1.67(1.46) ± 0.33 <sup>b</sup>	0.25(0.86) ± 0.01 <sup>b</sup>	0.010(0.71) ± 0.00 <sup>b</sup>	95.00 ± 0.58 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>3</sub>	1.67(1.46) ± 0.33 <sup>b</sup>	0.21(0.84) ± 0.02 <sup>bc</sup>	0.010(0.71) ± 0.00 <sup>b</sup>	94.67 ± 0.33 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>4</sub>	1.67(1.46) ± 0.33 <sup>b</sup>	0.20(0.84) ± 0.02 <sup>bc</sup>	0.013(0.72) ± 0.00 <sup>b</sup>	95.67 ± 0.33 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>5</sub>	1.67(1.46) ± 0.33 <sup>b</sup>	0.19(0.83) ± 0.01 <sup>bc</sup>	0.010(0.71) ± 0.00 <sup>b</sup>	95.00 ± 0.58 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>6</sub>	1.67(1.46) ± 0.33 <sup>b</sup>	0.16(0.81) ± 0.04 <sup>c</sup>	0.010(0.71) ± 0.00 <sup>b</sup>	95.33 ± 0.33 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>7</sub>	0.00(0.71) ± 0.00 <sup>c</sup>	0.00(0.71) ± 0.00 <sup>d</sup>	0.00(0.701) ± 0.00 <sup>c</sup>	95.00 ± 0.58 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>8</sub>	57.00(7.58) ± 0.57 <sup>a</sup>	12.06(3.54) ± 0.07 <sup>a</sup>	0.820(1.14) ± 0.01 <sup>a</sup>	91.00 ± 0.58 <sup>a</sup>
CV%	9.06	1.82	0.49	1.14
Lsd	0.310	0.035		1.079

Means followed by the same letter within a column are not significantly different from each other at 5% level of probability (Student-Newman-Keul's Range Test). Values in the parenthesis are square root transformed. **T**<sub>1</sub> = 0% (0 gm) + 100% (4 gm), **T**<sub>2</sub> = 10% (0.01 gm) + 50% (2 gm), **T**<sub>3</sub> = 20% (0.02 gm) + 40% (1.6 gm), **T**<sub>4</sub> = 30% (0.03 gm) + 30% (1.2 gm), **T**<sub>5</sub> = 40% (0.04 gm) + 20% (0.8 gm), **T**<sub>6</sub> = 50% (0.05 gm) + 10% (0.4 gm), **T**<sub>7</sub> = 100% (0.1 gm) + 0% (standard check) and **T**<sub>8</sub> = Untreated check

**Table.6. Residual effects of different rates of Malathion 5% D and Neem seed powder combinations on the percentage of weevil mortality when grains were re-infested after three months of treatment.**

Treatment	Percent weevils mortality					
	2 dai	4 dai	6 dai	12 dai	18 dai	
T <sub>1</sub>	0.67(2.98) ± 0.67 <sup>cd</sup>	4.33(11.33) ± 1.00 <sup>d</sup>	16.00(23.56) ± 1.15 <sup>c</sup>	28.00(31.95) ± 1.15 <sup>c</sup>	52.00(46.14) ± 2.00 <sup>b</sup>	
T <sub>2</sub>	2.67(9.27) ± 0.67 <sup>c</sup>	8.67(17.12) ± 0.67 <sup>c</sup>	12.67(20.85) ± 0.67 <sup>d</sup>	16.00(23.56) ± 1.15 <sup>d</sup>	26.67(31.09) ± 0.67 <sup>c</sup>	
T <sub>3</sub>	2.65(7.83) ± 1.33 <sup>c</sup>	5.33(13.30) ± 0.67 <sup>d</sup>	11.33(19.67) ± 0.67 <sup>d</sup>	16.67(24.09) ± 0.67 <sup>d</sup>	22.00(27.97) ± 2.00 <sup>d</sup>	
T <sub>4</sub>	0.005(7.83) ± 0.00 <sup>c</sup>	4.67(12.17) ± 1.33 <sup>d</sup>	12.00(20.28) ± 0.00 <sup>d</sup>	16.00(23.59) ± 0.00 <sup>d</sup>	26.00(30.66) ± 1.15 <sup>c</sup>	
T <sub>5</sub>	8.00(16.36) ± 1.15 <sup>b</sup>	18.67(25.60) ± 0.67 <sup>b</sup>	22.67(28.44) ± 0.67 <sup>b</sup>	50.67(45.40) ± 0.67 <sup>b</sup>	100.00(89.47) ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>	
T <sub>6</sub>	8.67(17.02) ± 1.33 <sup>b</sup>	18.67(25.60) ± 0.67 <sup>b</sup>	22.00(27.97) ± 1.15 <sup>b</sup>	50.67(45.40) ± 0.67 <sup>b</sup>	100.00(89.47) ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>	
T <sub>7</sub>	25.33(30.66) ± 1.76 <sup>a</sup>	74.67(59.84) ± 1.76 <sup>a</sup>	100.00(89.47) ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>	100.00(89.47) ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>	100.00(89.47) ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>	
T <sub>8</sub>	0.02(0.41) ± 0.01 <sup>d</sup>	0.67(2.98) ± 0.67 <sup>e</sup>	4.00(11.29) ± 1.15 <sup>e</sup>	4.67(12.42) ± 0.67 <sup>e</sup>	2.00(8.13) ± 0.00 <sup>e</sup>	
<b>CV %</b>	<b>27.62</b>	<b>7.34</b>	<b>3.79</b>	<b>1.83</b>	<b>2.14</b>	
<b>Lsd</b>	<b>6.50</b>	<b>3.21</b>	<b>2.42</b>	<b>1.35</b>	<b>2.03</b>	

Means followed by the same letter within a column are not significantly different from each other at 5% level of probability (Student-Newman-Keul's Range Test). dai=days after infestation. Values in the parenthesis are angular transformed value. T<sub>1</sub> = 0% (0 gm) + 100% (4 gm), T<sub>2</sub> = 10% (0.01 gm) + 50% (2 gm), T<sub>3</sub> = 20% (0.02 gm) + 40% (1.6 gm), T<sub>4</sub> = 30% (0.03 gm) + 30% (1.2 gm), T<sub>5</sub> = 40% (0.04 gm) + 20% (0.8 gm), T<sub>6</sub> = 50% (0.05 gm) + 10% (0.4 gm), T<sub>7</sub> = 100% (0.1 gm) + 0% (standard check) and T<sub>8</sub> = Untreated check

**Table 7. Residual effects of different rates of Malathion 5% dust and Neem seed powder combinations on progeny emerged, percentages of grain damaged, grain weight losses and seed germination when the grains was e-infested after three months of treatment.**

Treatment	Number of progeny weevils emerged	Percent damaged grain	Percent grain weight loss	Percent seed germination
	66 dari	156 dai	156 dai	156 dai
T <sub>1</sub>	47.67(6.94) ± 0.33 <sup>b</sup>	9.74(3.20) ± 0.20 <sup>b</sup>	1.33(1.35) ± 0.01 <sup>b</sup>	88.67 ± 0.67 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>2</sub>	15.00(3.93) ± 0.57 <sup>c</sup>	3.84(2.08) ± 0.06 <sup>c</sup>	1.18(1.29) ± 0.03 <sup>c</sup>	88.00 ± 1.15 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>3</sub>	15.33(3.97) ± 0.33 <sup>c</sup>	3.51(2.00) ± 0.13 <sup>d</sup>	1.15(1.28) ± 0.01 <sup>c</sup>	88.61 ± 0.33 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>4</sub>	14.33(3.84) ± 0.88 <sup>c</sup>	3.58(2.01) ± 0.11 <sup>cd</sup>	1.15(1.28) ± 0.02 <sup>c</sup>	91.67 ± 0.33 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>5</sub>	6.00(2.54) ± 0.57 <sup>d</sup>	1.14(1.28) ± 0.02 <sup>e</sup>	0.13(0.79) ± 0.01 <sup>d</sup>	90.67 ± 2.40 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>6</sub>	5.67(2.48) ± 0.33 <sup>d</sup>	1.17(1.29) ± 0.02 <sup>e</sup>	0.14(0.79) ± 0.00 <sup>d</sup>	90.00 ± 3.05 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>7</sub>	1.00(1.22) ± 0.00 <sup>e</sup>	0.03(0.72) ± 0.01 <sup>f</sup>	0.01(0.72) ± 0.00 <sup>e</sup>	90.33 ± 2.03 <sup>a</sup>
T <sub>8</sub>	140.33(11.86) ± 1.20 <sup>a</sup>	26.11(5.15) ± 0.40 <sup>a</sup>	3.49(1.99) ± 0.03 <sup>a</sup>	45.33 ± 2.85 <sup>b</sup>
CV %	3.36	2.02	0.92	4.06
LSD	0.250	0.072	0.018	3.450

Means followed by the same letter within a column are not significantly different from each other at 5% level of probability (Student-Newman-Keuls range Test). dari=days after re-infestation, dai= days after infestation. Values in the parenthesis are square root transformed. T<sub>1</sub> = 0% (0 gm) + 100% (4 gm), T<sub>2</sub> = 10% (0.01 gm) + 50% (2 gm), T<sub>3</sub> = 20% (0.02 gm) + 40% (1.6 gm), T<sub>4</sub> = 30% (0.03 gm) + 30% (1.2 gm), T<sub>5</sub> = 40% (0.04 gm) + 20% (0.8 gm), T<sub>6</sub> = 50% (0.05 gm) + 10% (0.4 gm), T<sub>7</sub> = 100% (0.1 gm) + 0% (standard check) and T<sub>8</sub> = Untreated check

## DISCUSSION

The study indicated that mixing sorghum with partially grinded chilies (hot pepper) at the rates of 1% w/w and 2% w/w potentially effective control methods against stored sorghum insect pests and comparable results were observed with malathion 5% D (Table 3). The findings agree with the farmers in sorghum producing areas where they used to mix their produce with partially grinded chilies (hot pepper, personal observation). Some farmers also used to mix sorghum with small seed cereals such as teff and finger millet and layering of tef over sorghum with different proportion. Our finding did not agree with farmers' practice in the case of mixing sorghum with tef and layering tef over sorghum as higher weight of grain damaged per sample and lower weight of undamaged grain per sample were observed from the experiment (Table 2). Prolonged storage of maize admixing with low rates of tef may result in high damage to the produce. According to Abraham (2003), as the rates of tef decreasing (<30%w/w), the efficacy will be decreased even though admixing maize with different rates of tef was better than in the untreated check. Therefore among the farmers practices so far tested mixing sorghum with hot pepper at 1% w/w and 2%w/w resulted in promising effects in protecting storage insect pests and recommended for the farmers.

Significantly higher mortality of adult weevils observed from all combinations of Malathion dust and neem seed powder treatments than the untreated check following 90 dai, are in accordance with previous works. Obeng-Ofori and Amiteye (2003) reported that lower dosages of the oil and pirimiphos-methyl when combined were highly toxic to adult *S. zeamais*. The same study also reported that a mixture of 1 ml of the oils and 1/16 of recommended rate of pirimiphos-methyl killed over 80% of the weevils exposed within 24 hr. In addition, significantly ( $P < 0.05$ ) lower number of progeny, lower percentages of damaged grain and lower seed weight loss were recorded from all combinations of the treatments following 90 days after infestations. Similarly, the combination of DE and plant extracts at reduced level or with soil bacteria metabolites, formulated as "All Natural" and "Spindeba", prevented progeny emergence of *Prostephanus truncatus* at 50-100 ppm (Stather and Credland, 2003). A reduced level of the

combinations provided adequate protection of maize from maize weevils for more than six months (Credland, 2003). Ulrich and Mewis (2000) showed that combination of DE fossil shield ( $1 \text{ gm kg}^{-1}$ ) and a commercial neem product Azal-T/S ( $1 \text{ gm kg}^{-1}$ ) resulted in higher mortality of weevils, low progeny emergence and effective control of *T. castaneum* and *S. oryzae* for more than three months. Arthur (2002) reported that significantly high mortality and low progeny weevils emerged from insecticidal pyrazole applied at rates of 7.5 and 10 ppm either alone or in combination with deltamethrin, piperonyl butoxide and chloropyrifos-methyl against the red flour beetles.

The persistence of the treatments following 90 days after infestation showed that mortality in all of the treatment combinations were significantly higher than the untreated check. However, the effects on the mortality were gradual in all of the combinations of the treatments, except for the Malathion dist rates at 40% and 50% combinations with NSP at 20% and 10%, respectively. The number of progeny, percentages of damaged grain, and grain weight loss were significantly lower in the above-mentioned two rates. These are in accordance with the reports of (Srrenarayanan et al., 1999) all the combinations of malathion and olive oil resulted in effective control of the maize weevil the effectiveness was similar to recommended rates following sixty days after infestation. On the other hand, decreased potency of NSP with increased time after infestation is in line with the results of many authors indicated that the effectiveness of plant powder decreases with increasing time after infestation. The study also confirmed that, applications of NSP effectively controlled for 3 months and further applications will be required after this time. The rates of Malathion dust at 40% and 50% combinations with neem seed at 20% and 10% effectively protect maize from the maize weevils for almost five months. The two higher rates of Malathion dust combined with Neem seed effectively controlled the weevil for about five months. The efficacy of neem seed powder declined with time and combinations, which had higher rates of Malathion dust, provided better protection to the maize grain than the other rates of combinations. The current study clearly showed that use of mixtures of synthetic insecticide and botanicals effectively controlled

the maize weevil and prolonged their persistence than the use of the individual materials.

## CONCLUSION

Among the farmers practices so far tested, mixing sorghum with partially grinded chilies (hot pepper) at the rate of 2% w/w and 1% w/w have showed promising effects against stored sorghum insect pests than the others treatments and equivalent results were recorded with standard check in controlling insect pests in stored sorghum. The period of protection lasted for about six months. Mixing grinded chilies at the rate of 1% w/w and 2% w/w can be used to protect stored sorghum insect pests.

Following 156 days after infestation, Malathion dust at 40% and 50% combined with Neem seed powder at 20% and 10%, respectively, provided significant protection to the maize grain next to the standard check. From these studies, it can be concluded that combinations are better than single treatment. Combinations of Malathion and neem seed powder at 40%+20% and 50%+10% can be used to protect maize from the maize weevil.

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