

Guava

Pests

Fruit Fly (*Chaetodacus sp.*):

The adult of fruit fly lays eggs on fruit during monsoon. Later the maggots enter the fruit and feed on the pulp causing dropping of fruits.

Control: Harvesting fruits during the light green stage, raking soil under the tree, collection of the diseased fruits and bagging of fruit 3-4 weeks from fruit-set helps to minimise the pest attack. Spraying of insecticides like Malathion and Fenthion is also recommended.

Mealy Bug (*Ferrisia varigata, Planococcus citri*):

The tiny small bugs usually suck sap from twigs, leaves and flowers. Infested fruits will have uneven shapes, poor quality, and are susceptible to secondary infections by pathogens.

Control: Soil application of Thimet and banding the tree trunk with polyethylene film will prevent the nymph to climb up from the soil. Spraying 400-ml neem oil with 50-ml liquid soap in 10 liters of water and repeating the spray after 10 days has been found effective.

Kajji Bug:

Scab (Kajji) like symptoms are observed on fruits due to the infestation of the pest. Wart like formation develops on fruits due to secondary infection caused by decaying organisms.

Control: Spray Carbaryl 50 WP 40g or Malathion 50 EC 20ml/10 liters in water, at early fruitset.