

Marigold

Pests

Aphids :

These are small insects green to bluish-grey or black in colour. These usually occur in clusters and damage the apical growing portion by sucking the plant sap. Infected plants become weak and unproductive. Spraying of insecticides can control the attack.

Control: Spraying of Monocrotophos 0.05%, Phosphamidon 0.02%, or Dimethoate 0.03% at 10-15 days interval helps to check the population of the aphids.

Beetles and Weevils :

These cause damage to number of annuals including marigold. These feed on young leaves and tender shoots, particularly at the ground level.

Control: Spraying of systemic insecticides like Roger or Monocrotophos @ 2 ml/ litre of water on the under surface of the leaves effectively controls the insects.

Leaf Hoppers :

Leaf hoppers cause considerable damage to the foliage of the plant, particularly during rainy season. The symptom appears as rolling and curling of leaves along with wilting of shoots. French marigold is more susceptible than African type. Spraying of systemic insecticides can control the insects.

Control: the pest is effectively controlled by two to three sprayings of Methyl Parathion or Quinalphos (0.05%) as soon as the pest infestation is observed.

Red Spider Mites :

These are spinning creatures, red and brown in colour. The mites become active during the flowering period. They suck the sap from the leaves. The speckling, discoloration and dusty appearance of the leaves easily identify the attack.

Control: Spraying of miticides like Kelthane (2 ml/litre of water) or Dicofol (0.1%) is effective against the mites.