

5. Regular collection and destruction of snails from the estates
6. Use different baits to attract snails

Rice bran bait

Mix 60 kg rice bran with 160 g Thiodicarb 75 WP. Add 300 ml castor oil to the mixture. Dissolve 6 kg jaggery in 5 liters of water and pour into the mixture and stir continuously while mixing. Make 150 g balls or cakes from the mixture and place in between four plants in different locations inside the estate (400 balls /acre) using broad leaves.

Papaya bait

Mix 160 g Thiodicarb 75 WP powder with 60 kg papaya (raw, roughly chopped) along with 6 kg powdered jaggery. Keep 200 g of the mixture in between four plants in 300 locations per acre.

Metaldehyde pellets

Apply 2.5 % metaldehyde pellets (SNAIL KILL) uniformly near the base of the plants or where snail movement is observed.

It is advised to keep the baits before sunset and collect the snails next morning and dispose.

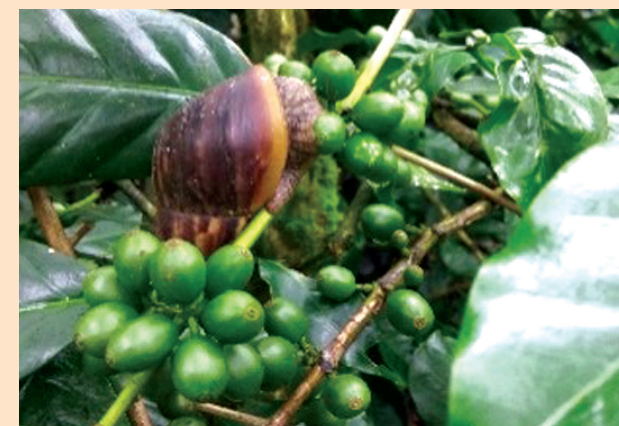
Keep cut stems and leaves of papaya or wet gunny bags in different locations inside the estate to attract and trap the snails.

Precautions

1. Always wear gloves while handpicking the snails and avoid direct contact
2. Bury the collected snails completely under the soil along with bleaching powder /lime

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MANAGEMENT OF GIANT AFRICAN SNAIL



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Giant African snail, *Achatina fulica* is a sporadic non insect pest localised in some coffee growing areas. The incidence generally observed during monsoon season. Snails are active during night (nocturnal) and damages various crops like pepper, arecanut, rubber etc.

Life cycle

Giant African snails possess both male and female sex organs and they lay eggs in groups of 50-200 numbers on the soil surface. Yellow coloured eggs hatch within a week and grow slowly.



Giant African snail with eggs

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Giant African snail on coffee

They take about a year to reach maturity and life span ranges from 3-5 years.

Damage

Damage noticed on young leaves of coffee plants. Significant damage from snails is not observed in coffee, but it causes a lot of unhygienic and inconvenient situations for the estate workers.

Management

1. Avoid transporting soil, plants, wood, or any other material from snail infested areas
2. Inspect carefully while procuring seedlings from the

nurseries for the presence of snails or their eggs

3. Encourage domestication of hens and ducks, as they can help control the snails
4. Remove weeds, debris, wooden logs and alternative host plants of snail which provides shelter or hiding place



Bait

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