

Evaluation of Optimum Spray Volume Applications Against Coffee Berry Disease on *Coffea arabica* in Harerge Region

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SUMMARY

The ways of controlling coffee berry disease (CBD) with chemicals is often highly appreciated by coffee growers in Harerge region-Ethiopia. But its use is restricted by the scarcity of water for spraying purposes. Considering this problem a trial was conducted at mechara to provide coffee growers in Harerge region with optimum spray volume applications which are suitable and require minimum quantity of water for spraying against CBD and thus to increase coffee production in the region. Chlorothalonil at the rate of 4.4 kg/ha was suspended in various volumes (high, low, very low and ultra low) and variable concentrations. Applications were achieved by using manually operated knapsack sprayer, motorised knapsack sprayer and Micron ULVA-8 sprayers respectively. The low and ultra low volume applications of fungicides on *Coffea arabica* in Harerge were as effective for the control of CBD as the high volume application. However, because of the unmanageably tall size of Harer coffee trees and exo-drift, which occurs mainly from small droplet sizes and since water was used as a carrier, the use of ULV application against CBD on Harer coffee seems to be controversial. On the other hand, the low volume application in the region should be encouraged.