

### **MEALY BUG INFESTATION ON PAPAYA AT MOGADISHU SOMALIA**

The past two months, different plants including Papaya were affected with white wax substances at Mogadishu capital of Somalia. The white substances covering relatively all shoot system of the most plants were detected, in addition to that most of them were distracted, normal people confused whether its pathogenic fungal disease or otherwise some air pollution were occurred with to their plants. But Somali Natural Resource Research Center (SONRREC) undertook pilot assessment for ensuring the accurate conditions about these observable facts from attacked plants. SONRREC organized plant protection team, especially entomologists which their mandate was only clarification of the causing agent, as they visited randomly three districts viz *Hodan* , Holwadag and wadajir in Mogadishu, they observed papaya plant, whether it is the stage of fruiting or young tree is in house gardens. They found the Papaya plants were affected by Mealy bug and most of them died due to lack of protection and good management programs.



Invaded Papaya (Source SONRREC)

## RECOMMENDATIONS

- Make continues observation, especially in the early invasion
- The appropriate method for decreasing the level of Mealy bug population on the plans is to use over head irrigation for disturbing the wax substances which is covering its body, then apply the recommended insecticide ( Neem )

Prepared by Mohamed Dayib Sheikh Abubakar  
Entomologist