RESEARCH ARTICLE

SURVEY OF VARIOUS PESTS AND DISEASES OF NIGER (*GUIZOTIA ABYSSINICA* CASS) CROP UNDER TRIBAL BELTS OF SOUTH GUJARAT

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Abstract: Niger (*Guizotia abyssinica* Cass) is an important minor oil seed crop. The Niger crop is found infested by number of diseases & pests, which causes harsh damage to the crop. The survey for Niger diseases was conducted during the *Kharif*, 2013 in different villages of Vansda taluka of Navsari district, Kaprada taluka of Valsad district and similarly, in Dang district of Gujarat. The two major diseases *viz*., *Alternaria* and *Cercospora* leaf spot were noticed in the scale of 1.0 to 4.0 and 1.0 to 3.0 grades respectively. However, the incidence of powdery mildew disease was not observed but the infestation of *Cuscuta* was observed as a minor problem during the survey of Niger crop. Apart from this, in pest incidence hairy caterpillar was observed in scattered as well as in uniform population while, the population of aphids and white flies was not noticed in the field during the survey.

Keywords: Survey, Niger, Crop, Tribal

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