

BIONOMICS OF PREDATORY RED STINK BUG, *EUTHYRHYNCHUS FLORIDANUS* LINNAEUS (HEMIPTERA: PENTATOMIDAE) ON TURMERIC LEAF SKIPPER BUTTERFLY, *UDASPES FOLUS* AT RAIPUR (C.G.)

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Abstract: Studies on the biology of predatory red stink bug, *Euthyrhynchus floridanus* Linnaeus (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae) on Turmeric, *Curcuma longa* L. conducted under laboratory conditions at Raipur Chhattisgarh, revealed that the bug, *E. floridanus* was found predated on the larvae of *Udaspes folus* and observed to be an extremely beneficial insect which killed their prey by sucking the body contents through a long, stout proboscis. The eggs were laid on upper surface of leaves. The eggs were laid in cluster with 68-70 per cluster and about 80 % eggs hatchability. Eggs were hatched 2 to 3 days after egg laid. The 1st instar nymph was approximately 1.0 mm long along with a blue-black head and thorax with red abdomen having dark central and lateral "stripes" composed of dorsal and lateral dark colored plates. The first instar nymphs were lived in groups or masses but later instar lived in individually because later instar cannibalism was observed. The 5th instar nymph was medium sized, approximately 1.2 to 1.5 cm in length. It was mottled brown or grey in colour and could easily be recognised by the presence of sharp spines on either side of the thorax. Nymph passed through 5 instars in about 30 to 38 days. Their total life cycle took about 39-50 days. Population of *E. floridanus* observed maximum during the month of November last week, which was recorded to be 0.063 bug per plant and minimum population recorded to be 0.026 bug per plant during the month of December second week.

Keywords: Red stink bug, Eggs, Nymphs, Adults, Population

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