RESEARCH ARTICLE

INSECT- PESTS SUCCESSION, NATURAL ENEMIES AND THEIR CORRELATION WITH WEATHER PARAMETERS IN MUSTARD CROP

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Abstract: A field experiment was conducted at research station Ambikapur, (C.G.) during Rabi season, 2017-18 to assess the insect- pests succession in mustard crop and their natural enemies and its correlation with weather parameters. The incidence of Aphid and Flea beetle population commenced from 1st week of December with 1.32 aphid/ plant 5cm apical twig and 2.4 beetle/plant. The peak infestation of aphid occurred in 7th SMW which was favored by min. temp. of 11.6 ^{0}C and max. temp. of 24.3^{0}C with morning 91% and evening 44% humidity. Flea beetle was recorded attained its peak level of 15.8 beetle/plant/m^2 in 1st week of February (6th SMW) which was favoured by max. temp. 26.5^{0}C and min.temp.11.6^{0}C with morning 85% and evening 35% relative humidity. The Diamond back moth was observed 2nd week of December and saw fly was recorded from third week December and reached its peak activity 1.96 adult/plant in the 2nd week of February (7th SMW). Painted bug was observed 4th week of December with peak activity (3.8 bug/plant) 2nd week of February (7th SMW) which was favoured by max. temp. 24.3^{0}C and min. temp. 11.4^{0}C with morning 91% and evening 44% relative humidity. Bihar hairy caterpillar commenced from 2nd week of December in (50th SMW) and Semilooper commenced from 1st week of January in (1st SMW). While various natural enemies were found on mustard crop. The lady bird beetle (*Coccinella septumpunctata*) and Syrphid fly found on mustard on 4th week of December to 2nd week of March. The *Diaretella rapae* was noticed on mustard crop on second week of January to first week of March.

Keywords: Aphid, Natural enemies, Weather parameters

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