

FORAGING BEHAVIOR OF ROCK BEE (*APIS DORSATA*) ON MUSTARD ECOSYSTEM IN AMBIKAPUR, CHHATTISGARH

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Abstract: An observation was undertaken for foraging activity of *Apis dorsata* on mustard that the *Apis dorsata* was recorded. After the entire study during the different flowering period viz...onset, full bloom and end of bloom it was concluded that no population of rock bee, *Apis dorsata* was recorded at 7.00-8.00 hrs. However, its reached its peak at 11.00-12.00 hrs (13.60 bees/5min/m²) followed by at 9.00-10.00 hrs (6.20 bees/5min/m²). The minimum population of rock bee, *Apis dorsata* was recorded at 1.00-2.00 hrs (5.20 bees/5min/m²). During the present study maximum population was observed in the full bloom stage in mustard ecosystem.

Keyword: Rock bee, *Apis dorsata*, Foraging behaviour, Mustard ecosystem

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