

FORAGING BEHAVIOR OF STINGLESS BEE, *TETRAGONULA IRIDIPENNIS* SMITH 1854 (HYMENOPTERA: APIDAE-MELIPONINI) ON RADISH FLOWERS

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Abstract: During first week of February 2020 at 8.00AM (0.40 bees/5min/m²) and reached its peak at 12.00Noon (7.00 bees/5min/m²) however, its population was decreased at 4.00PM (4.20 bees/5min/m²) and the overall average population was recorded 3.84 bees/5min/m². During the second week of observation minimum population was noticed at 8.00AM (0.20 bees/5min/m²) and reached its peak at 2.00PM (7.20 bees/5min/m²) and after that its population was decreased at 4.00PM (3.00 bees/5min/m²). During the third week of observation lower population was recorded at 8.00AM (0.60 bees/5min/m²) and its peak population was recorded at 12.00Noon (13.00 bees/5min/m²) followed by at 2.00PM (11.20 bees/5min/m²) however, low population was noticed at 4.00PM (5.00 bees/5min/m²). During the fourth week of observation lowest population was recorded at 8.00AM (2.00 bees/5min/m²). The maximum population was found at 12.00Noon (14.20 bees/5min/m²) followed by at 4.00PM (6.20 bees/5min/m²). During the first week of March low population was recorded at 8.00AM (1.80 bees/5min/m²). The highest population was recorded at 12.00Noon (15.60 bees/5min/m²) followed by at 2.00PM (13.20 bees/5min/m²) and decreased at 4.00PM (6.40 bees/5min/m²). However, during the second week of observation maximum population was recorded at 12.00Noon (7.80 bees/5min/m²) followed by at 2.00PM (6.20 bees/5min/m²) and decreased at 4.00PM (4.60 bees/5min/m²) however, the lowest population was recorded at 8.00AM (2.00 bees/5min/m²).

Keywords: Foraging behavior, Radish flower, Stingless bee, *Tetragonula iridipennis*

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