RESEARCH ARTICLE

STUDIES ON BIOLOGY OF RED PUMPKIN BEETLE (*AULACOPHORA FOVEICOLLIS* LUCAS) UNDER ODISHA CONDITION, INDIA

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Abstract: An experiment was done to investigate the biology of the red pumpkin beetle, *Aulacophora foveicollis* (Lucas) under laboratory conditions. Sweet gourd plants were used as the host plant for studying the biology of the test insect. It was found that female red pumpkin beetle laid 118 to 184 eggs with an average of 142.3 ± 30.9. The oviposition period varied from 8 to 12 days with an average of 11.7 ± 1.2 days. The average length and breadth of egg at 1st, 2nd, 3rd and fourth instar larva and also pupa were 0.85 ± 0.08 mm and 0.70 ± 0.03 mm, 3.00 ± 0.12 mm and 0.51 ± 0.06 mm, 5.67± 0.44 mm and 0.55 ± 0.08 mm, 8.77 ± 0.18 mm and 0.83 ± 0.09 mm, 12.67 ± 0.88mm and 3.07 ± 0.18 mm, 6.37 ± 0.29 mm and 115 ± 0.18 mm, respectively. The incubation period, larval period, and pupal period were 12.53 ± 0.1 days, 17.674.33 days, and 13.38 ± 0.31 days, respectively. The average lifespan of adult males and females was 40.67 ± 0.66 days and 47.33 ± 3.06 days, respectively.

Keywords: Red pumpkin beetle, Odisha, Vegetables

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