RESEARCH ARTICLE

POPULATION DYNAMICS OF BIHAR HAIRY CATERPILLAR AND TIL HAWK MOTH ON SESAMUM IN NORTHERN HILLS OF CHHATTISHGARH

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Abstract: The field experiment was conducted at Raj Mohini Devi College of Agriculture and Research Station, Ambikapur (C.G.) during *kharif* 2020, to know the population dyamics of Bihar hairy caterpillar *Spilosoma oblique* and Til Hwak Moth *Acherontia styx* infesting on sesamum. Bihar hairy caterpillar appeared during 33rd SMW *i.e.* 12th - 18th August (2nd week). The peak population of Bihar hairy caterpillar was observed inthe second week of September with a mean population of 12.10 larvae/plant. The correlation between Bihar hairy caterpillar, *Spilosoma oblique* and weather parameters during *kharif* 2020 results indicated that the population demonstrated a significant positive correlation with maximum temperature (r =0.546) and Til Hawk Moth, *Acherontia styx* infesting on sesamum. Til Hawk Moth appeared during 34rt SMW *i.e.* 19th - 25th August (3rd week). The peak population of Til Hawk Moth was observed inthe second week of September with a mean population of 2.60 larvae/plant. The correlation between Til Hawk Moth, *Acherontia styx* and weather parameters during *kharif* 2020 results indicated that the population demonstrated a significant positive correlation with maximum temperature (r =0.698).

Keyword: Sesamum (*Sesamum indicum* L.), Correlation, *Spilosoma oblique, Acherontia styx*

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