

RESEARCH PAPER

Seasonal incidence of sucking pests of okra along with natural enemies in Khandesh region of Maharashtra

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Studies on seasonal incidence of sucking pests of okra along with natural enemies were undertaken at research farm of Department of Agricultural Entomology, College of Agriculture, Dhule during *Kharif* 2015. A study on seasonal incidence of sucking pests was undertaken on *Kharif* crop, revealed that leafhoppers incidence reached its peak activity during the second week of September (23 leafhoppers/3 leaves/plant) whereas the peak incidence of aphids was noticed in the first week of September (43.3 aphids/3 leaves/plant). The peak incidence of the whiteflies was recorded during the second week of September (21 whiteflies/3 leaves/plant), whereas peak activity of predator lady bird beetle was reported during second week of September (26 lady bird beetle/plant), when the population of sucking pests was at its peak. The incidence of aphids ($r = 0.170$), whiteflies ($r = 0.287$) and leafhoppers ($r = -0.060$) do not show any significant correlation with maximum temperature. The minimum temperature showed positive non-significant correlation with leafhoppers ($r = 0.131$) and positive significant correlation with aphids ($r = 0.644^*$). The morning relative humidity showed positive non significant correlation with occurrence of the leafhoppers ($r = 0.454$), aphids ($r = 0.458$), whitefly ($r = 0.313$). Similarly, the evening humidity showed negative non-significant correlation with the pests such as leafhoppers ($r = -0.100$), aphids ($r = -0.223$) and whiteflies ($r = -0.339$) during *Kharif* 2015 season. The rainfall had non-significant effect at 5 per cent and 1 per cent level with whitefly, aphid and leafhopper.

Key words : Okra, Seasonal incidence, *Kharif*

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