RESEARCH ARTICLE



Bionomics and evaluation of different biocides against anar butterfly, *Virachola isocrates* (Fabricius) infesting pomegranate

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ARITCLE INFO	ABSTRACT
Received : 20.05.2013 Revised : 22.07.2013 Accepted : 28.07.2013	The present investigation was carried out in laboratory condition at Department of Entomology and field condition at Horticulture Farm, B.A. College of Agriculture, Anand Agricultural University, Anand during 2011-12. The female laid eggs on flowers, fruits and leaves singly. The freshly laid
Key Words : Pomegranate, <i>Virachola isocrates</i> , Fruit borer, Bionomics Biocides	eggs were shiny white in colour. The length and breadth of eggs, first, second, third, fourth and fifth instar larvae were 0.49 ± 0.78 and 0.51 ± 0.08 mm, 1.56 ± 0.28 and 0.98 ± 0.08 , 6.95 ± 1.28 and 2.45 ± 1.01 , 12.4 ± 0.95 and 3.80 ± 0.53 , 17.4 ± 1.95 and 4.6 ± 0.52 , 22.5 ± 1.90 and 5.78 ± 1.20 mm, respectively. The duration of first, second, third, fourth, fifth, pre-pupal and pupal stages were 4.8 ± 1.10 , 5.8 ± 0.78 , 7.8 ± 0.65 , 6.3 ± 0.62 , 5.22 ± 1.02 , 2.4 ± 0.48 and 10.8 ± 2.20 days, respectively. The pre-oviposition and post oviposition period were 1.20 ± 0.42 , 3.5 ± 0.95 and 6.0 ± 0.79 days, respectively. Among the nine biocides evaluated against <i>V. isocrates</i> on pomegranate, neem oil @ 0.5 per cent, neem seed kernel extract @ 5 per cent and <i>Bacillus thuringiensis</i> @ 0.15 per cent were found more effective. The application cost of the respective biocides were $1670, 2420$ and 3337 Rs./ha, respectively.
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