

Influence of Abiotic Factors on the Seasonal Incidence of Sucking Pests and Occurrence of Natural Enemy Population in Groundnut Ecosystem

Y Sharmila, C Sandhya Rani, Ch Chiranjeevi and P Anil Kumar

Department of Entomology, Agricultural College, Bapatla, A. P.

ABSTRACT

Seasonal incidence of sucking pests in groundnut was studied during *kharif*, 2018 at Agricultural College Farm, Bapatla. The study revealed that seasonal incidence of thrips, *Scirtothrips dorsalis* and leafhoppers, *Empoasca kerri* was initiated during 36th standard meteorological week (SMW) with a population of 0.97 leafhoppers/plant and 1.14 thrips/plant respectively. The population of leafhoppers reached its peak of 7.12 leafhoppers/plant during 38th SMW. The population of thrips reached its peak during 36th SMW with 6.61 thrips/plant. The population of aphids, *Aphis craccivora* was noticed during 40th SMW and reached its peak during 41st SMW with a population of 1.8 and 4.33 aphids/plant respectively. Population of coccinellids and spiders recorded during 36th SMW with a population of 0.18 and 0.32 per plant respectively, and attained their peak during 41st SMW with a population of 2.01 and 1.12 per plant respectively. The results of MLR analysis showed that all the weather variables together contributed to the incidence of leafhoppers ($R^2= 0.6929$), thrips ($R^2= 0.7327$), aphids ($R^2= 0.3751$) and occurrence of coccinellids ($R^2= 0.5787$) and spiders ($R^2= 0.3867$).

Key words: *Aphids, Abiotic factors, Coccinellids, Groundnut, Leafhoppers, Spiders and Thrips.*