

Studies on Incidence of Major Lepidopteran Pests in Rice and its Correlation with Weather Parameters

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ABSTRACT

A field experiment was carried out at Agricultural College Farm, Naira during *rabi*, 2020-21 to evaluate the incidence pattern of major lepidopteran pests with relevance to change in abiotic factors in rice crop. The incidence of yellow stem borer and leaf folder were initiated from 7th - 8th SMW and attained maximum during 12th and 13th SMW, respectively. The correlation of yellow stem borer for dead heart shows non-significant positive correlation with the maximum temperature and morning relative humidity whereas non-significant negative correlation was observed with minimum temperature, evening relative humidity and rainfall. The correlation of white ear heads shows significant positive correlation with minimum temperature and rainfall whereas non-significant positive correlation with maximum temperature and evening relative humidity. The correlation of leaf folder shows non-significant positive correlation with maximum temperature, minimum temperature and morning relative humidity whereas non-significant negative correlation was observed with evening relative humidity and rainfall.

Keywords: *Correlation, Seasonal incidence, Yellow stem borer and Leaf folder.*