

Influence of Temperature and Humidity on the Incidence of Certain Pests of Cauliflower

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ABSTRACT

A field experiment was conducted to study the seasonal incidence of tobacco caterpillar, *Spodoptera litura* (Fab.), diamondback moth, *Plutella xylostella* (Linn.) and aphid *Brevicoryne brassicae* (Linn.) on cauliflower at Agricultural College Farm, Bapatla during *rabi*, 2008-09. The incidence was recorded at weekly intervals from a total of forty plants from four different locations in the field. The peak incidence of *S. litura* (21.0 larvae/10 plants) on cauliflower was noticed during the last week of December, 2008, while in case of *P. xylostella* (17.2 larvae/10 plants) it was during the first week of January, 2009 and *B. brassicae* (18.3 aphids/10 plants) was during the first week of January, 2009. The relationship between the populations of *S. litura* larvae and the aphids, and the morning relative humidity was negative but significant. Where as the relationship between the *P. xylostella* larval population and, the morning relative humidity and maximum temperature was significantly positive and negative, respectively.

Key words : *Brevicoryne brassicae*, Cauliflowe, *Plutella xylostella*, *Spodoptera litura*.