Seasonal Incidence of Spotted Pod Borer *Maruca vitrata* (Geyer) in Rice Fallow Blackgram

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ABSTRACT

A field experiment on seasonal incidence of spotted pod borer, *Maruca vitrata* in rice fallow blackgram was conducted during 2009-10 *rabi* season in the farmers field at Munipalle village in Guntur district in relation to biotic and abiotic factors *viz.,* maximum and minimum temperatures, morning and evening relative humidity, rainfall, spiders and coccinellids. The results indicated that the incidence of this pest commenced from the second week of January and remained active up to the fourth week of February. The pest reached its peak level at the first week of February with the population of twenty one larvae per twenty plants. Correlation studies indicated that morning and evening relative humidities showed significant positive correlation and minimum temperature showed significant negative correlation on the larval population of *M. vitrata*. On flower damage only morning relative humidity showed significant positive correlation, while on pod damage, all weather factors showed non significant correlation. There was no effect of biotic factors on the larval population, flower damage and pod damage.

Key words : Blackgram, *Maruca vitrata*, Seasonal incidence