

PESTS AND PREDATORS RECORDED IN BRASSICA ECOSYSTEM

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ABSTRACT

To assess the pests and predators' population in brassica ecosystem, the six varieties were sown on 1st November 2008. The population of insect pests on all varieties was highest (101.79) per plant on 16th February with increasing rate of 11.814X and $r^2 = 0.89$. Thereafter, the population was minimum (14.63) per plant on 8th March with a decreasing rate of -14.18X and $r^2 = 0.93$ and there was a highly significant correlation between population and dates ($r^2 = 0.96$). Pest population decreased when temperature reached upper threshold limit 23 to 35°C and it depicted that there was a significant negative correlation between cumulative degree-days and pest population with a slope of line- 0.002DD and $r^2 = 0.97$. The population of predators on all varieties was highest (1.583) per plant on 9th February with increasing rate of 0.126X and $r^2 = 0.88$. There was a positive and highly significant correlation between predator population and cumulative degree-days with a slope of line 0.002DD and $r^2 = 0.91$. Its population decreased when temperature reached upper threshold limit.

Keywords: Biological control, resistant varieties