Sericologia 57(1): 10-19, 2017
ISSN 0250-3980

Research Paper

INFLUENCE OF AGRONOMIC PRACTICES ON THE INCIDENCE OF SUCKING INSECT PESTS OF MULBERRY IN KOLAR REGION (KARNATAKA, INDIA)

B. Sreenivasa[1], M. Noble Morrison[2] and D. Manjunath[1*]

[1]Department of Studies in Sericulture Science, University of Mysore, Manasagangotri, Mysuru 570006, India.

[2]Research Extension Centre, Central Sericultural Research and Training Institute, Central Silk Board, Madivala, Kolar, India.

*E-mail:manjunath4591@yahoo.co.in

ABSTRACT

In the current study, the impact of certain agronomic practices on the incidence of the sucking insect pests in mulberry crop system was documented in different seasons for three years from 2013-14 to 2015-16 at farmers' level in Kolar District in the following combinations of package of practice: a) tillage + closer spacing + organic inputs (T1), b) tillage + closer spacing + inorganic inputs (T2), c) tillage + closer spacing + organic inputs + inorganic inputs (T3), d) zero tillage + wider spacing + organic inputs (T4), e) zero tillage + wider spacing + inorganic inputs (T5), and f) zero tillage + wider spacing + organic inputs + inorganic inputs (T6). A great deal of variation in the incidence of *Pseudodendrothrips mori, Empoasca flavescens, Maconellicoccus hirsutus, Saissetia nigra* and *Aleurodicus dispersus* was observed among the treatments and the incidence being the highest in T4 and the least in T6 irrespective of season and year of pest monitoring. On the whole, the incidence was found decreased in the following order: T4, T2, T1, T5, T3, and T6 (*i.e.*, T4>T2>T1>T5>T3>T6). The results are discussed in the light of those existing elsewhere in other crop systems in general and mulberry in particular. The findings have a great significance on the selection of a need based pest control strategy to obviate the problem posed by the pests in question in mulberry crop system *vis-a-vis* agronomic practices employed.

Key words: Agronomic practices, mulberry gardens, pest monitoring, seasonal incidence, sucking pests.