

Seasonal Variation of Insect Species on Paddy in Goa

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Goa, has more than 70% of its cultivable land under paddy cultivation. So, a survey was conducted in eleven talukas, comprising the two districts of entire Goa to understand the status of insect diversity on paddy. Collection of insects was made between 0800-1100 hrs by sweep net, @ 100 sweepings in an area of about 10,000 m², three sites/two fields in each taluka. This was done at an interval of fifteen days for two years to cover Kharif and Rabi seasons.

The results indicated that Goan paddy harbors an insect diversity of 51 species, belonging to 26 family under 9 orders. The prominent ones being *Heiroglyphus banian* Fabricus, *Oxya chinensis* Thunberg, *Nephotettix nigropictus* Stal., *Nilaparvata lugens* Stal., *Pamera vineta* Say., and *Agrion civile* Hagan. Further, the number of insect species encountered during kharif season was much more than rabi (Table 1) and may be because of the fact that in Goa, kharif paddy is grown extensively. It can be concluded that Goan paddy harbors sufficient number of species of insects which have shown seasonal variations. This, therefore, calls for further studies.

Table 1 Insect fauna in various talukas during kharif and rabi seasons in Goa

Taluka	Number of Insect species		Taluka	Number of Insect species	
	Kharif	Rabi		Kharif	Rabi
Pernem	13	8	Sattari	29	14
Bardez	18	8	Mormugoa	5	3
Bicholim	23	11	Salcete	31	19
Tiswadi	12	6	Quepem	17	10
Ponda	21	9	Sanguem	14	9
Canacona	19	11			



Maconellicoccus hirsutus on Acid Lime in India

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During January 1999, the terminal shoots of acid lime plants (three year old) were found infested with the pink mealybug, *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green) at IIHR Farm, Bangalore. Mealybug infestation on the growing point resulted in malformation of shoots and leaves. *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* appears to be a first record on acid lime in India. There was only one earlier report of *M. hirsutus* on *Citrus* spp. in Egypt by Hall (1920).