

CANTHECONIDEA FURELLATA (WOLF) PENTATOMIDATE; HEMIPTERA AS A PREDATOR OF HENOSEPLACHNA VIGINTIOCTOPUNCTATA (FABR)

Adults and nymphs of *Cantheconidea furcellata* recorded as predators of *Henosepilachna vigintioctopunctata* occurring on a crop of brinjal raised in the Instructional Farm and Research Station attached to the College of Horticulture, Vellanikkara, during August-September 1980. The adults and nymphs fed on the pupae and grubs of the pest and did not reveal clear preference to any stage. A single nymph on an average consumed 19 grubs/pupae per day (n=25) the range being 16-32. The adults fed at the rate of 16 grubs/pupae per day and their longevity was 11 days. The feeding habits of the nymphs and adults were similar. The proboscis is inserted into the pleural membranes of the prey and the prey is held in position continuously for about three minutes for feeding on the body fluid.

C. furcellata has been already recorded as a predator of many lepidopterous larvae (Cherian and Bramachai, 1941). Rawat and Modi (1975) reported the bug to be predatory on *Oocassida pudibunda* Boh. (Coleoptera; Chrysomelidae). The present report of *C. furcellata* feeding on *H. vigintioctopunctata* is the first record.

സംഗ്രഹം

കാതകൊണിഡിയാ ഫൂർസെലാറ്റാ എന്നയിനം പ്രാണികൾ എപ്പിലാക്റ്റാ വണ്ടുകളിൽനിന്നു നീരുററികൂടിക്കുന്നതുമൂലം വണ്ടുകൾക്ക് ഗണ്യമായ നാശം വരുത്തുന്നതായി കാണുകയുണ്ടായി. പാവൽ, വഴുതന, തക്കാളി എന്നീ ചെടികൾക്ക് കേടുവരുത്തുന്ന വണ്ടുകളുടെ സംഖ്യാബലം ഇപ്രകാരം ഗണ്യമായ കുറയ്ക്കുന്നതിനുള്ള ഈ പ്രാണികളുടെ കഴിവ് ഇടപ്രഥമമായ റിപ്പോർട്ടാണ്.

References

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