

**CLOVIA BIPUNCTATA KIRBY (CERCOPIDAE : HEMIPTERA)
AS A PEST OF LEMONGRASS**

A spittle bug *Clovioa bipunctata* Kirby. (Cercopidae: Hemiptera) was found infesting leaves of lemongrass (*Cymbapogon flexuosus* Steudt.) in the Instructional Farm attached to the College of Agriculture, Vellayani, Kerala, during January, 1980. This appears to be the first record of the insect's occurrence in India and as a pest of lemongrass. As minor pests *C. lineaticollis* has been reported in jack tree and *C. puncta* in rice. Tan and Johnson (1976) have recorded another species *C. sarwakana* Lall. as a pest of sugarcane in Malaysia.

The nymphs were observed to infest the tender leaves of lemongrass. The infested leaves show characteristic markings and when the attack becomes severe, the leaves become crinkled.

The adult bug is straw coloured with a mean length of 8.75 mm and width 3 mm across the thorax. There are two conspicuous dots on the anal margins of the forewings (Fig 1). The nymphs are creamy white in colour.

The pest could be controlled by the high volume application of quinalphos 0,05% emulsion.

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സംഗ്രഹം

ഇഞ്ചിപ്പുല്ലിന്റെ രോഗവിരുദ്ധതയെക്കുറിച്ചുള്ള കഴിഞ്ഞുപോയ പഠനങ്ങൾ എന്ന കീടത്തിന്റെ ഉപദ്രവം ഇന്ത്യയിലാദ്യമായി കേരളത്തിൽനിന്നും റിപ്പോർട്ട് ചെയ്യപ്പെട്ടിരിക്കുന്നു.

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Reference

Tan, S. W. and Johnson, C. A. 1976. Yellowing of sugarcane leaves caused by *Phaenacantha saccharicida* Karsch. (Hemiptera : Lygaeidae). Report of the Plant Protection Division, Perlis Plantations, Malaysia 453-456.

(M. S. received: 10-12-1981)

Adult of *Clovio bipunctata*
X 10

