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Study of pollinator's diversity on mango (Mangifera indica L.) var. amrapali

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Abstract

The insects are the most dominant and important animals on the earth and affects the human life directly or indirectly. Mango tree are pollinated most predominantly insects like numerous insect of the order Hymenoptera, Diptera, Coleoptera and Lepidoptera. Pollen grains have been observed adhering to the bodies many species belongs to order Hymenoptera. Among Hymenopteran insects different species of honey bees are the most efficient flower visiting insects. Somme studies have suggested that insect of order Diptera is the dominant pollinators of mango.

Keywords: Taxonomy, pollinators, mango

Introduction

Mango (*Mangifera indica* L.) is the national fruit of India. It belongs to family Anacardiaceae is rightly called the "King of Fruits" is grown all over the country. India is the major Mango growing country, contributing nearly 46.74 per cent of world's area (2.31 m ha), 40.48 per cent of world's production (15.03 million tons) and productivity 6 tone / ha respectively. India is the major Mango growing country, contributing nearly 46.74 per cent of world's area (2.31 m ha), 40.48 per cent of world's area (2.31 m ha), 40.48 per cent of world's production (15.03 million tons) and productivity 6 tone / ha respectively. The production of mango in Uttar Pradesh was the highest in the country i.e. 0.36 m tone followed by Andhra Pradesh (0.33 m tone). The fruit of mango is the rich source of vitamin-A, vitamin-B₆, vitamin-C, vitamin-E, Copper, Potassium, carotenoids, polyphenols and flavonoids like beta-carotene, alpha-carotene and beta-cryptoxanthin. The production of nectar for the attraction of insects also indicates that the mango is entomophilies'. Mango flowers are visited by flies, wasps, bees, butterflies, moths, beetles, ants and various bugs sucking the nectar and some transfer the pollen but a certain amount of self-pollination also occur.

Materials and Methods

The field experiment was carried out on cultivar "Amrapali" plants at MES Horticulture and Apiculture Laboratory, Department of Entomology Narendra Deva University of Agriculture and Technology Kumarganj, Faizabad (UP) India during 2014. The materials are required to be mango tree var. Amrapali insects sweep net, chloroform, cotton, killing bottle, stretching board, insect pin etc. The flowering period of mango is March to April. Flowers are grown in clusters. The visiting insects were collected throughout the blooming period from 1st March to 25th March at 7:00 am to 05:00 pm (data were recorded 6 days after anthesis up to 90% flowering was over). Insect were kept killing bottle after that insects are pinned and preserved properly. All the specimen were arranged systematically and identified by \Dr. Umesh Chandra, Principal Investigator, AICRP on Honey Bee & Pollinators and comparing with maintain different correction.

Result and Discussion

Studies on pollinators' diversity on mango flowers revealed that pollinators/visitors activity started at flower anthesis stage and continued till fruit setting stage. The Dipterans were the major floral visitors comprising of three familes *viz.*, Syrphidae (*Syrphus corolla* Fab., *Episyrphus balteatus, Eristalis tenax* L., *Melanostoma orientale* We. And *Eupeodes Sp.*), Muscidae *viz.* (*Musca domestica*), Calliphoridae *viz.* (*Callifora sp.*), followed by Hymenopteran comprising of only one family a.i. Apidae (*Apis dorsata* Fab, *A florea* Fab, *A.*)

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mellifera L. and *T. irridipennis*), Neuroptera contains only one species a.i. *Chrysoperla carnea* (family: Chrysopidae) and Coleoptera also contains one species a.i. *Coccinella*

septumpunctata (family: Coccinellidae). Among these insects, *Episyrphus balteatus*, *Syrphus corollae* Fab. and *A. mellifera* were the most frequent visitors.

Table 1: Diversity of various insect pollinators/visitors on mango flowers at MES Horticulture Kumarganj, Faizabad, during, 2014

S. No	Common name	Scientific name	Order	Family
1	Italian bee	Apis mellifera L.	Hymenoptera	Apidae
2	Rock bee	Apis dorsata Fab.	Hymenoptera	Apidae
3	Little bee	Apis florea fab.	Hymenoptera	Apidae
4	Dammer bee	Trigona iridipennis	Hymenoptera	Apidae
5	Wasp	Vespula orientailis	Hymenoptera	Vaspidae
6	Hover fly	Episyrphus balteatus	Diptera	Syrphidae
7	Syrphid fly	Syrphus corollae Fab.	Diptera	Syrphidae
8	Syrphid fly	Eristalis tenax L.	Diptera	Syrphidae
9	Syrphid fly	Melanostoma orientale We.	Diptera	Syrphidae
10	Syrphid fly	Eupeodes sp.	Diptera	Syrphidae
11	Housefly	Musca domestica	Diptera	Muscidae
12	Blue bottle fly	Callifora sp.	Diptera	Calliphoridae
13	Lady bird beetles	Coccinella septempunctata	Coleoptera	Coccinellide
14	Green lace wings	Chrysoperla carnea	Neuroptera	Chrysopidae

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