



J. Appl. Biosci., 42(2): 109-113, December, 2016

ISSN (Print) 0975-685X

ISSN (Online) 0975-864X

HABIT AND HABITAT, MORPHOLOGY, FEEDING CAPACITY AND PREY PREFERENCE OF SIX HUMPED DOME SPIDER, *CYRTOPHORA CICATROSA* STOLICZKA

S.N. CHAUBEY and R.S. MISHRA

Department of Zoology, S.D.J.P.G. College Chandeshwar, Azamgarh, U.P., India

ABSTRACT

Laboratory studies were carried out to investigate habit and habitat, morphology, feeding capacity and prey preference of *Cyrtophora cicatrosa* collected from various places of Azamgarh district (U.P.). It was found on thorny bushes. It makes its web in between leaves of paddy crop plants. While working on its feeding capacity it was found to prey actively on various insect pests of paddy crop fields. It was observed to prey on soft bodied insects like lepidopteran pests. A single individual can consume about 25 to 29 insects/24h.

KEY WORDS: *Cyrtophora cicatrosa*, habit and habitat, feeding capacity, prey preference, economic importance, bio-control agent, insect pests