

Biology of maize stem borer, *Chilo partellus* (Swinhoe) Crambidae: Lepidoptera
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SUMMARY

The biology of maize stem borer was studied under laboratory conditions during *Khariff* 2007 at College of Agriculture Navile, Shimoga, revealed that the stem borer completed its life cycle in 30 to 69 days. The incubation period ranged from 3 to 6 days. The larval stage passed through six instars. The mean duration of I, II, III, IV, V and VI instar was 4.80 ± 0.78 , 4.40 ± 1.89 , 5.30 ± 1.88 , 5.90 ± 2.28 , 6.10 ± 2.37 and 8.30 ± 2.21 days, respectively. The total larval period ranged from 20 to 51 days. The premating and mating period occupied 9.15 ± 1.40 and 5.04 ± 0.70 hours, respectively, oviposition period occupied 4.2 ± 0.63 days. The stem borer had the fecundity rate of 262-657 eggs. The adult male and female lived for 3 to 8 days and 3 to 7 days with a mean of 6.20 ± 1.75 and 5.00 ± 1.49 days, respectively.

Key words :

Biology, Maize
stem borer,
Fecundity,
Oviposition,
Incubation period

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