

Effect of intercropping on population dynamics of pod borer complex of pigeonpea

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ABSTRACT : An experiment was conducted at Agricultural Research Farm, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, India on management of pigeon pea pod borer complex through intercropping system. The pigeon pea intercropped with maize, pearl millet, sorghum, seeded rice and black gram, which had significant ($P= 0.10$) influence on the population reduction of *H. armigera*, *L. boeticus*, *E. atomosa*, *G. critica*, *C. gibbosa* and *M. obtusa*. The pigeon pea intercropped with sorghum was most effective in suppressing the population of *E. atomosa* (0.57 larva/plant), *C. gibbosa* (4.81 bugs/plants) and *M. obtusa* (8.86 maggots pods⁻²⁰). Pigeon pea+rice intercrop harboured lowest population of *H. armigera* (0.57 larva/plant) and *G. critica* (0.67 larva/plant) while pigeon pea + maize intercrop had minimum population of *L. boeticus* (0.59 larva/plant). The peak intensity of infestation of *H. armigera*, *L. boeticus*, *E. atomosa*, *G. critica* and *M. obtusa* were 1.11, 0.87, 0.70, 1.14/plant and 18.19 maggots pods-20, respectively at 258 DAS (second fortnight of March). While the peak activity of pod bug *C. gibbosa* (18.92 bug/plant) was observed at 273 DAS (first fortnight of April).

Key Words : Intercropping, pigeon pea, pod borer complex, population dynamics.