

Estimating seed infestation of pigeonpea (*Cajanus cajan* L.) caused by *Melanagromyza obtusa* (Malloch) in district Allahabad of U.P.

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ABSTRACT : *Melanagromyza obtusa* (Malloch) is one of the major pest of Pigeonpea (*Cajanus cajan* L.) in India causing massive damage to the crop. The present study was conducted to assess the seed infestation by *Melanagromyza obtusa* on Pigeonpea (*C. cajan* L.) variety Bahar in Allahabad district (U.P.). It was observed that 85.83% of seeds were healthy and 14.17% of seeds of Pigeonpea were found to be infested by *Melanagromyza obtusa* in the kharif season of 2009-2010. The pupae were also observed for adult emergence and the percentage of survival was found to be 69.81% and mortality was recorded to be 30.18%. The abiotic factors viz. temperature, humidity, wind, rainfall and sunshine that prevailed during the period of our study were also taken into account. The study clearly indicated towards high risk of crop damage due to *Melanagromyza obtusa*. The results reveal edthat abiotic factors were not able to control the seed infestation and adult emergence. Further studies are in progress to control the incidence of *Melanagromyza obtusa* employing integrated pest management strategies.

Key Words : *Melanagromyza obtusa*, pigeonpea, *Cajanus cajan*, seed infestation.