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RESEARCH ARTICLE:

Biology of Bihar hairy caterpillar, *Spilarctia obliqua* (Walker) (Erebidae: Lepidoptera) on field bean

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SUMMARY: Biology of the Bihar hairy caterpillar, *Spilarctia obliqua* (Walker) reared on field bean leaves revealed that the eggs were creamy white when laid became pale yellow in colour before hatching. The number of eggs per mass varied from 148 to 232. Egg, larval and pupal period varied from 5 to 6, 20 to 21 and 8 to 9 days, respectively. The average eggs laid by a female moth were 148 - 232. Larvae had six instar with a total larval duration of days. The length of male and female moth varied from 51 to 55 mm and 55 to 59 mm, respectively. The total life span of male and female ranged from 37 to 42 days and 39 to 44 days, respectively.

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KEY WORDS:

Biology, Erebidae, Field bean, *Spilarctia obliqua*

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