

RESEARCH ARTICLE

Effect of date of sowing on rice yellow stem borer, *Scirpophaga* incertulas Walker (Lepidoptera: Pyraustidae) in aerobic paddy

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ABSTRACT

Field experiments were conducted at the College of Agriculture, Shimoga during *Kharif* and *Rabi* seasons of 2005-2006 to assess the effect of date of sowing on infestation by yellow stem borer (YSB) in rice. During *Kharif* season in aerobic rice, peak activity was noticed at 60 DAS in all the dates of sowing with 2.13, 3.85, 6.23, 7.97, 9.94 and 12.03 per cent DH, respectively. Grain yield of 30th May and 15th June aerobic rice sowing crop was higher with 48.55 and 46.48 q/ha, respectively, whereas, in 30th July and 15th August aerobic rice sowing crop, yield was as low as 18.92 and 15.93 q/ha, respectively. During the *Rabi* season, the per cent DH infestation in aerobic rice was least in 30th November sowing with 0.05, 0.20, 0.70, 1.55 and 1.45 per cent at 30, 45, 60, 75 and 90 DAS, respectively and per cent WH of 0.82 prior to harvest with higher yield of 49.86q/ha followed by 15th December, 30th October, 15th November and 30th September sown crop with yield of 47.89,37.96, 22.16 and 19.81 q/ha, respectively with decreased order in incidence. Whereas, the infestation was highest in 15th October sown crop with per cent DH of 0.72, 1.63, 6.75, 9.40 and 6.4 at 30, 45, 60, 75 and 90 DAS, respectively and per cent of WH of 7.4 prior to harvest with lowest yield of 16.60 q/ha.

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