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RESEARCH ARTICLE

Biology of mirid bug, *Poppiocapsidea* (=*Creontiades*) *biseratense* (Hemiptera Miridae) on Bt cotton

■ PRAKASH* AND M. BHEEMANNA

Department of Agricultural Entomology, University of Agricultural Sciences, RAICHUR (KARNATAKA) INDIA

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***Corresponding author:**
Email: htprakash4@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Detailed biology of the cotton mirid bug, *Poppiocapsidea* (=*Creontiades*) *biseratense* (Distant) (Hemiptera: Miridae) was studied at Raichur, India during 2011-12 season. Egg incubation period and nymphal development period ranged from 5-9 and 11-17 days, respectively. The duration of first, second, third, fourth and fifth nymphal instars were 2-5, 2-4, 2-3, 1-3 and 1-3 days, respectively. The male lived for 10-15 days while female lived for 16-22 days, fecundity varied from 80-165 eggs per female. Pre-oviposition, oviposition and post-oviposition period varied from 2-3, 9-14 and 4-8, days, respectively. All the developmental stages, nature of damage on Bt cotton and alternate hosts of mirid bug have been described. The adult female preferred to insert the eggs on petiole, followed by bracts, and flower petals. Both nymphs and adults were found to suck the sap by piercing their stylet into the plant tissues, squares and small tender bolls. The affected portion rapidly turns to dull in colour, then becomes blackens and ultimately dies. Affected parts gradually turned yellow, sunken and dropped down prematurely and symptoms like square staining, feeding punctures at the base of square, and on small bolls were found.

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