



Varietal Preference of Major Insect Pests of Sesame

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ABSTRACT: The screening of ten varieties of sesame, *Sesamum indicum* L. viz., RT-376, RT-346, RT-127, Pragati, RT-458, GT-10, RMT-505, RMT-447, RT-46 and RT-103 were investigated against major insect pests viz., leaf roller and capsule borer, *Antigastra catalaunalis* (Dup.), leafhopper *Orosius albicinctus* Distant. and whitefly, *Bemisia tabaci* (Genn.), during kharif, 2019. During the investigation none was found immune Variety RT-346 and RT-376 were categorized as least susceptible (harboured < 4.17 leaf roller and capsule borer/ five plants, < 4.10 leafhopper/three leaves and < 4.16 whitefly/ three leaves), whereas, varieties RMT-505, RT-458, RMT-447, RT-127 and GT-10 as moderately susceptible. The variety RT-46 and Pragati as highly susceptible against leaf roller and capsule borer, leafhopper and whitefly, however, variety RT-103 was found least susceptible against whitefly and moderately susceptible against incidence of leaf roller and capsule borer and leafhopper.

Keywords: Sesame, varietal preference, leaf roller and capsule borer, leafhopper and whitefly.

INTRODUCTION

Sesame, *Sesamum indicum* L. is the oldest oilseed crop in the world cultivated throughout India and belongs to family Pedaliaceae. Sesame is native of East Africa and India (Nayar and Mehra, 1970; Bedigian, 1985). Its seeds contain 52-57 per cent oil and 25 per cent protein (Smith *et al.*, 2000). Its cultivation gained impetus because of high quality edible oil, rich source of carbohydrate, protein, calcium and phosphorus (Seegeler, 1983), the reason why it is also known as 'queen of oil seeds'.

The most important sesame growing countries are India, China, Sudan, Burma and Mexico. In India, the cultivation is mainly confined to M.P., Rajasthan, U.P., A.P., Orissa, Gujarat, T.N. and Karnataka.

The production and productivity of sesame is greatly affected by abiotic factors. Among them, insect pests are one of the important limiting factors affecting the production of sesame both in quality and quantity (Egonyu *et al.*, 2005; Ahirwar *et al.*, 2009). The pests attack tolls a heavy loss (25 to 90%) in seed yield. Number of insects belonging to different orders and family have been recorded on sesame in various parts of the world and most important pests in India are leaf roller and capsule borer, *Antigastra catalaunalis* (Dup.), jassid, *Orosius albicinctus* (Distant.), whitefly, *Bemisia tabaci* (Genn.), mired bug, *Nesidiocoris enuis* (Reuter), til hawk moth, *Acherontia styx* (Westwood), bihar hairy caterpillar, *Diacrisia oblique* (Wlk.), sesame gall fly, *Asphondylia sesame* (Felt.) have been recorded (Sasikumar and Sardana, 1988, Deokar *et al.*, 1989, Ahirwar *et al.*, 2009; Jyothi *et al.*, 2018). Among the

various insect pests of sesame, sesame leaf roller and capsule borer, leafhopper and white fly are the major insect pests of sesame in semi-arid condition of Rajasthan.

Growing of resistant varieties is an ideal component of pest management and in the past, some varieties of sesame have been screened against insect pests by many workers (Laurentia and Pereira, 2002; Laurentin *et al.*, 2003; Choudhary, 2009; Jarwar, 2009). However, these were replaced by new high yielding varieties on which such work is unavailable, hence, in the present study some new varieties were screened to find out their comparative resistance against major insect pests of sesame.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The experiment was laid out in a simple randomized block design (RBD) with ten varieties as treatments, each replicated thrice in a plot of size 3 m × 2.4 m, keeping row to row and plant to plant distance of 30 cm and 10 cm, respectively. The crop was sown on 22 July, 2019. Ten varieties viz., RT-376, RT-346, RT-127, Pragati, RT-458, GT-10, RMT-505, RMT-447, RT-46 and RT-103 were screened in the experiment. All the varieties were allowed for natural infestation in the field. The observations on the population of major insect pests of sesame viz., sesame leaf roller and capsule borer, leafhopper and white fly were recorded on five randomly selected and tagged plants in each plot. The observations will be recorded at weekly interval right from appearance of the pest till harvesting of the crop.

The observations on leaf roller and capsule borer population will be recorded on the five randomly selected and tagged plants in each plot at weekly interval from appearance of pest till harvesting of the crop. The population of leaf hopper and whitefly will be recorded early in the morning on three leaves (one each from upper, middle and lower plant canopy) from each randomly selected and tagged plants in each plot at weekly interval from appearance of pest till harvesting of the crop. The data were statically analysed.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Leaf roller and capsule borer, *Antigastra catalaunalis* (Dup.)

The data on screening of sesame varieties against leaf roller and capsule borer *A. catalaunalis* presented in Table 1 showed that none of the tested varieties found immune from the infestation. The leaf roller and capsule borer population started to build up from 34th SMW (23rd August, 2019), reached to peak in 36th SMW (6th September, 2019). Based on overall mean population of the season on different varieties of sesame. It was minimum on variety RT-346 (2.19 leaf roller and capsule borer/ five plants) followed by RT-376 (2.59 leaf roller and capsule borer/five plants) and RT-103 (3.11 leaf roller and capsule borer/five plants), these were found at par with each other, however, the varieties RT- 505 (3.96 leaf roller and capsule borer/ five plants) and RT-458 (4.18 leaf roller and capsule borer/five plants) were also found at par with the variety RT-103. The maximum population of leaf roller and capsule borer was recorded in the variety RT-46 (6.56 leaf roller and capsule borer/five plants) followed by Pragati (6.00 leaf roller and capsule borer/five plants) and GT-10 (5.41 leaf roller and capsule borer/ five plants), these were found at par with each other, however, the varieties RMT-447 and RT-127 were also found at par with the varieties GT-10 and Pragati. The ascending order of leaf roller and capsule borer infestation in different varieties of sesame was found in order: RT-346 < RT-376 < RT-103 < RMT-505 < RT-458 < RMT-447 < RT-127 < GT-10 < Pragati < RT-46. The results are in agreement with the results obtained by Anonymous (2000), Choudhary (2009); Yadav (2019) who reported that the variety RT-46 and Pragati as highly susceptible and RT-346 as least susceptible, however, the variety RT-346 was reported as moderately susceptible to leaf roller and capsule borer infestation by Choudhary *et al.* (2018) are partially corroborate the present findings. Choudhary (2009), Yadav (2019) and Choudhary *et al.* (2018) reported that the varieties RT-103 and RT-127 were moderately susceptible to leaf roller and capsule borer infestation also corroborate the present findings.

Leafhopper, *Orosius albicinctus* Distant.

The infestation of leafhopper is presented in Table 2 showed that the none of the varieties is found free from infestation. The leafhopper population started to build up from 33rd SMW (16th August, 2019), reached to peak in 36th SMW (6th September, 2019). Based on overall

mean population of the season on different varieties of sesame. It was minimum on variety RT-346 (1.65 leafhopper/three leaves) followed by RT-376 (1.90 leafhopper/three leaves) and RT-103 (2.54 leafhopper/ three leaves), these were found at par with each other, however, the varieties RMT-505, RT-458 and RMT-447 were also found at par with the variety RT-103. The maximum population of leafhopper was recorded in the variety RT-46 (5.50 leafhopper/three leaves) followed by Pragati (5.31 leafhopper/three leaves) and GT-10 (4.68 leafhopper/ three leaves), which were found at par with each other, however, the variety RT-127 was also found at par with the varieties GT-10 and Pragati. The ascending order of leaf roller and capsule borer infestation in different varieties of sesame was: RT-346 < RT-376 < RT-103 < RMT-505 < RT-458 < RMT-447 < RT-127 < GT-10 < Pragati < RT-46.

The present results are in conformity with the results obtained by Prajapat (2018) who reported that the variety RT-346 as least susceptible, variety RT-103 and RT-127 as moderately susceptible and variety GT-10 was preferred by leafhopper. The results also got support of Choudhary (2009), who reported that the variety RT-103 as moderately susceptible and variety RT-46 as highly susceptible against leafhopper on sesame crop.

Whitefly, *Bemisia tabaci* (Genn.)

The infestation of whitefly was presented in table 3 showed that first observation was recorded on 33rd SMW (16th August, 2019), where all the varieties were found infested with whitefly population, reached to peak on 36th SMW (6th September, 2019). Based on overall mean population of the season on different varieties of sesame, it was minimum on variety RT-346 (1.30 whitefly/three leaves) followed by RT-376 (1.80 whitefly/ three leaves) and RT-103 (2.22 whitefly/three leaves) these were found at par with each other. However, the varieties RMT-505 (3.06 whitefly/three leaves), RT-458 (3.39 whitefly/ three leaves) and RMT-447 (3.48 whitefly/three leaves) were also found at par with the variety RT-103. The maximum population of whitefly was recorded in the variety RT-46 (5.73 whitefly/three leaves) followed by Pragati (5.07 whitefly/three leaves) and GT-10 (4.56 whitefly/ three leaves), which were found at par with each other, however, the variety RT-127 (4.07 whitefly/ three leaves) was also found at par with the varieties GT-10 and Pragati. The ascending order of leaf roller and capsule borer infestation in different varieties of sesame was: RT-346 < RT-376 < RT-103 < RMT-505 < RT-458 < RMT-447 < RT-127 < GT-10 < Pragati < RT-46. The present results are in agreement with the results obtained by Choudhary (2009); Prajapat (2018), who reported that the variety RT-346 as least susceptible, variety RT-103 as moderately susceptible and variety RT-46 as highly susceptible to whitefly infestation. Prajapat (2018) also reported that the varieties RT-127 and GT-10 were highly susceptible to whitefly infestation also corroborates the present findings.

Table 1: Larval population of *Antigastra catalaunalis* (Dup.) on different varieties of sesame.

Sr.No.	Varieties	Larval population/ five plants									
		23.08.19	30.08.19	06.9.19*	13.09.19	20.9.19	27.09.19	04.10.19	11.10.19	18.10.19	Mean of the season
1.	RT-376	2.33 (1.68)	3.00 (1.87)	3.33 (1.96)	2.67 (1.78)	3.00 (1.87)	3.33 (1.96)	2.33 (1.68)	2.00 (1.58)	1.33 (1.35)	2.59 (1.76)
2.	RT-346	2.00 (1.58)	2.67 (1.78)	3.00 (1.87)	2.33 (1.68)	2.00 (1.58)	3.00 (1.87)	2.00 (1.58)	1.67 (1.47)	1.00 (1.22)	2.19 (1.64)
3.	RT-127	4.67 (2.27)	5.33 (2.41)	6.00 (2.55)	4.67 (2.27)	4.33 (2.20)	5.67 (2.48)	4.67 (2.27)	4.00 (2.12)	2.00 (1.58)	4.59 (2.26)
4.	Pragati	6.00 (2.55)	6.67 (2.68)	7.67 (2.86)	6.00 (2.55)	5.67 (2.48)	6.67 (2.68)	5.67 (2.48)	5.33 (2.41)	4.33 (2.20)	6.00 (2.55)
5.	RT-458	4.00 (2.12)	5.00 (2.35)	5.33 (2.41)	4.33 (2.20)	4.00 (2.12)	5.00 (2.35)	4.00 (2.12)	3.33 (1.96)	2.67 (1.78)	4.18 (2.16)
6.	GT-10	5.00 (2.35)	6.33 (2.61)	7.33 (2.80)	5.67 (2.48)	5.00 (2.35)	6.00 (2.55)	5.00 (2.35)	4.67 (2.27)	3.67 (2.04)	5.41 (2.43)
7.	RMT-505	4.00 (2.12)	4.33 (2.27)	5.00 (2.35)	4.00 (2.12)	4.00 (2.12)	5.00 (2.35)	3.67 (2.04)	3.33 (1.96)	2.33 (1.68)	3.96 (2.11)
8.	RMT-447	4.33 (2.20)	5.33 (2.41)	5.67 (2.48)	4.67 (2.27)	4.33 (2.20)	5.33 (2.41)	4.67 (2.27)	3.67 (2.04)	3.00 (1.87)	4.55 (2.25)
9.	RT-46	6.67 (2.68)	7.33 (2.80)	8.33 (2.97)	6.33 (2.61)	6.00 (2.55)	7.33 (2.80)	6.67 (2.68)	5.67 (2.48)	4.67 (2.27)	6.56 (2.66)
10.	RT-103	3.00 (1.87)	4.00 (2.12)	4.33 (2.20)	3.33 (1.96)	2.67 (1.78)	4.00 (2.12)	2.67 (1.78)	2.33 (1.68)	1.67 (1.47)	3.11 (1.90)
SEM±		0.11	0.12	0.13	0.11	0.11	0.12	0.11	0.10	0.09	0.11
CD (p=0.05)		0.34	0.35	0.38	0.33	0.32	0.34	0.35	0.31	0.28	0.33

Figures in the parentheses are $\sqrt{X}+0.5$ values; * Peak population of leaf roller and capsule borer during the crop season.

Table 2: Population of leafhopper, *Orosius albicinctus* Distant. on different varieties of sesame.

Sr.No.	Varieties	Leafhopper population/ three leaves										
		16.8.19	23.08.19	30.08.19	06.9.19*	13.09.19	20.9.19	27.09.19	04.10.19	11.10.19	18.10.19	Mean of the season
1.	RT-376	0.87 (1.17)	1.87 (1.54)	2.54 (1.74)	3.00 (1.87)	2.07 (1.60)	1.80 (1.52)	2.27 (1.66)	2.14 (1.62)	1.47 (1.40)	1.00 (1.22)	1.90 (1.54)
2.	RT-346	0.67 (1.08)	1.80 (1.52)	2.00 (1.58)	2.87 (1.84)	2.14 (1.62)	1.34 (1.36)	1.94 (1.56)	1.87 (1.54)	1.00 (1.22)	0.87 (1.17)	1.65 (1.47)
3.	RT-127	1.94 (1.56)	3.47 (1.99)	5.00 (2.35)	6.00 (2.55)	5.34 (2.42)	4.00 (2.12)	5.14 (2.37)	4.27 (2.18)	3.14 (1.91)	2.00 (1.58)	4.03 (2.12)
4.	Pragati	2.87 (1.84)	4.74 (2.29)	6.00 (2.55)	7.34 (2.80)	6.00 (2.55)	6.27 (2.60)	6.47 (2.64)	6.34 (2.62)	4.27 (2.18)	2.87 (1.53)	5.31 (2.41)
5.	RT-458	1.54 (1.43)	3.14 (1.91)	4.14 (2.15)	5.14 (2.37)	4.00 (2.12)	3.34 (1.96)	3.87 (2.09)	3.34 (1.96)	2.60 (1.76)	2.00 (1.58)	3.31 (1.95)
6.	GT-10	2.67 (1.78)	4.00 (2.12)	5.67 (2.48)	6.47 (2.64)	5.34 (2.61)	5.00 (2.35)	5.94 (2.54)	5.00 (2.35)	4.14 (2.15)	2.54 (1.74)	4.68 (2.28)
7.	RMT-505	1.34 (1.36)	3.00 (1.87)	3.27 (2.09)	4.74 (2.29)	3.67 (2.04)	2.87 (1.84)	3.74 (2.06)	3.34 (1.96)	2.47 (1.72)	1.54 (1.42)	3.00 (1.87)
8.	RMT-447	1.87 (1.54)	3.27 (1.94)	4.27 (2.18)	6.00 (2.55)	5.14 (2.37)	4.00 (2.12)	4.20 (2.17)	3.87 (2.09)	2.74 (1.80)	1.87 (1.54)	3.72 (2.05)
9.	RT-46	3.00 (1.87)	5.20 (2.39)	5.87 (2.52)	8.34 (2.97)	6.80 (2.70)	5.94 (2.54)	7.14 (2.76)	5.14 (2.37)	4.67 (2.27)	2.94 (1.85)	5.50 (2.45)
10.	RT-103	1.00 (1.22)	2.74 (1.80)	3.00 (1.87)	4.47 (2.23)	3.00 (1.87)	2.04 (1.59)	3.14 (1.90)	2.87 (1.83)	1.67 (1.47)	1.47 (1.40)	2.54 (1.74)
SEM±		0.05	0.10	0.11	0.13	0.11	0.10	0.11	0.11	0.10	0.08	0.11
CD (p=0.05)		0.15	0.30	0.33	0.40	0.32	0.30	0.36	0.31	0.28	0.25	0.32

Figures in the parentheses are $\sqrt{X}+0.5$ values.
* Peak population of leafhopper during the crop season.

Table 3: Population of whitefly, *Bemisia tabaci* (Genn.) on different varieties of sesame.

Sr.No.	Varieties	Whitefly population/ three leaves										
		16.8.19	23.08.19	30.08.19	06.9.19*	13.09.19	20.9.19	27.09.19	04.10.19	11.10.19	18.10.19	Mean of the season
1.	RT-376	0.54 (1.02)	1.00 (1.22)	2.54 (1.74)	3.00 (1.87)	2.54 (1.74)	1.94 (1.56)	2.87 (1.83)	1.94 (1.56)	1.00 (1.22)	0.67 (1.08)	1.80 (1.52)
2.	RT-346	0.34 (0.92)	0.74 (1.11)	1.47 (1.40)	2.34 (1.69)	1.87 (1.54)	1.67 (1.47)	1.94 (1.56)	1.34 (1.36)	0.67 (1.08)	0.60 (1.05)	1.30 (1.34)
3.	RT-127	1.80 (1.52)	4.14 (2.15)	5.00 (2.35)	6.67 (2.68)	4.47 (2.23)	4.27 (2.18)	5.54 (2.46)	4.14 (2.15)	2.67 (2.78)	2.00 (1.58)	4.07 (2.14)
4.	Pragati	2.67 (1.78)	4.87 (2.32)	6.34 (2.62)	8.54 (3.01)	6.00 (2.55)	5.14 (2.37)	6.47 (2.64)	5.00 (2.35)	3.27 (1.94)	2.47 (1.72)	5.07 (2.36)
5.	RT-458	1.34 (1.36)	3.27 (1.94)	4.67 (2.27)	5.00 (2.35)	4.14 (2.15)	4.00 (2.12)	4.94 (2.33)	3.27 (1.94)	1.80 (1.52)	1.54 (1.43)	3.39 (1.97)
6.	GT-10	2.60 (1.76)	4.34 (2.20)	6.14 (2.58)	7.00 (2.76)	5.00 (2.35)	4.67 (2.27)	6.34 (2.61)	4.34 (2.20)	2.87 (1.84)	2.27 (1.58)	4.56 (2.25)
7.	RMT-505	1.00 (1.22)	2.47 (1.72)	3.34 (1.96)	4.87 (2.32)	4.00 (2.12)	3.74 (2.06)	4.47 (2.23)	3.00 (1.87)	2.27 (1.66)	1.47 (1.40)	3.06 (1.89)
8.	RMT-447	1.34 (1.36)	3.47 (1.99)	4.00 (2.12)	5.34 (2.41)	4.14 (2.15)	3.94 (2.10)	5.00 (2.35)	3.87 (2.09)	2.00 (1.58)	1.67 (1.47)	3.48 (1.99)
9.	RT-46	3.00 (1.87)	5.67 (2.48)	7.14 (2.60)	9.27 (3.13)	6.34 (2.61)	5.94 (2.54)	7.67 (2.60)	5.74 (2.48)	4.00 (2.12)	2.67 (1.78)	5.73 (2.50)
10.	RT-103	0.94 (1.08)	1.47 (1.40)	2.60 (1.76)	3.87 (2.09)	3.00 (1.87)	2.67 (1.78)	3.27 (1.94)	2.00 (1.58)	1.34 (1.36)	1.00 (1.22)	2.22 (1.65)
SEM±		0.06	0.10	0.12	0.13	0.11	0.10	0.13	0.10	0.10	0.07	0.12
CD (p=0.05)		0.17	0.32	0.37	0.41	0.34	0.31	0.39	0.30	0.29	0.20	0.35

Figures in the parentheses are $\sqrt{X}+0.5$ values; * Peak population of whitefly during the crop season.

CONCLUSION

Ten varieties of sesame were screened against leaf roller and capsule borer, leafhopper and whitefly for relative resistance showed that the varieties RT-346 and RT-376 were found to be least susceptible, while, the varieties RT-46 and Pragati were found to be highly susceptible and the moderately susceptible varieties were RT-103, RMT-505, RT-458, RMT-447 RT-127 and GT-10 against leaf roller and capsule borer, leafhopper and whitefly. However, the variety RT-103 was found least susceptible against whitefly infestation and the variety GT-10 were categories as highly susceptible against leaf roller and capsule borer infestation.

FUTURE SCOPE

Cultivation of resistant varieties of sesame against major insect pests is the most effective and cheap method to control the pests and diseases as compared to chemical or biological control. In India, resistance level in cultivated sesame germplasm is very low and whatever the resistant germplasm available in the country has not been effectively utilized in the developing resistant varieties. Main focus of this research to reduce the insecticide toxicity. In the future, varietal preference should be utilized as an important component of Integrated Pest Management.

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Conflict of Interest. None.

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