

**STUDIES ON SOME MAIZE INSECT PESTS AND  
THEIR NATURAL ENEMIES**

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## ABSTRACT

### **Studies on some maize insect pests and their natural enemies**

The present work was carried out in four plantations of maize cultivated in Fayoum Fac. of Agric. Res. Farm during two the successive years 1991 and 1992 and was aimed to study the following aspects:

- 1- Surveying studies in certain insect pests attacking maize plants and their associated entomophagous insects.
- 2- Estimation of seasonal fluctuation of the major insect pests attacking maize plants and their associated entomophagous insects.
- 3- Biological studies on the two entomophagous insects, *Blaptostethus piceus* var. *pallescens* Poppius (Anthocoridae: Hemiptera) and *Epyris quinquecarinatus* Kieffer (Bethylidae: Hymenoptera).

The obtained results are summarized as follow:

#### **- Surveying studies:**

These records indicates that secured insect pests included 20 species belong to 14 families and 7 orders. In addition, 8 parasitoids and 16 predators of 7 and 9 families, respectively.

#### **- Ecological studies:**

Seasonal fluctuation of the population densities of some maize insect pests (Corn borers, Leaf maize aphid and Pink corn worm) together with their entomophagous insects in relation with some weather factors were investigated on weekly samples (10 plants each).

#### **- Biological studies:**

Biology of each of the anthocorid predator, *B. piceus* var. *pallescens* and the bethylid parasitoid, *E. quinquecarinatus* was studied at feeding on pink corn worm, *Pyrodeces simplex* larvae under different controlled temperatures of 20, 27 and 35°C, each combined with the three relative humidities 33, 57.7 and 84.3%.

**Key words:** Maize pests – *Blaptostethus piceus* var. *pallescens*- *Epyris quinquecarinatus*- Ecology –Biology.