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Recorded Host Plants of *Zeugodacus* (*Zeugodacus*) *tau* (Walker) (Tephritidae: Dacinae: Dacini)

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Recorded Host Plants of *Zeugodacus* (*Zeugodacus*) *tau* (Walker) (Tephritidae: Dacinae: Dacini) Abstract: Pumpkin fruit fly, *Zeugodacus* (*Zeugodacus*) *tau* (Walker) has been reported infesting 62 hosts belonging to 21 families, but plants belonging to the family Cucurbitaceae are preferred most. Brief notes on the nomenclatural status, distribution

Abstract :-

Pumpkin fruit fly, *Zeugodacus* (*Zeugodacus*) *tau* (Walker) has been reported infesting 62 hosts belonging to 21 families, but plants belonging to the family Cucurbitaceae are preferred most. Brief notes on the nomenclatural status, distribution and nature of infestation and damage have also been added.

Key Words :-

Zeugodacus (*Zeugodacus*) *tau*, host plants, Dacinae, Dacini, Distribution, infestation

Introduction :-

Pumpkin fruit fly, *Zeugodacus* (*Zeugodacus*) *tau* (Walker) (=Bactrocera (*Zeugodacus*) *tau*) damages 62 host plants species belonging to 21 families, but plants belonging to the family Cucurbitaceae are preferred most (Vasudha et al., 2019). It mainly attacks cucurbits and infestation intensifies when the population of its homologue species melon fly, *Zeugodacus* (*Zeugodacus*) cucurbitae is low. Competition between the two species is frequently seen in cucurbit hosts (Kapoor, 2004). Larvae of both species compete for resource exploitation and *Z. cucurbitae* took advantage over *Z. tau* at the high-density level and at low and high temperature conditions. Competitions mainly affected the puparial mass and the survival rate of the two species but had no marked effect

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on the puparial duration or development duration (Shen et al., 2014).

Zeugodacus tau females prefer to lay the eggs in soft tender host tissues by piercing them with the ovipositor. A watery fluid oozes from the puncture, which transforms into a brown resinous deposit. Maggots feed inside the host and oviposition punctures and larval tunnels provide entry points for bacteria and fungi that cause the fruit to rot. Infested fruits become distorted and usually drop. The fallen fruits are unfit for human consumption and have no market value (Vasudha, 2019). The extent of losses varies between 30 to 100 per cent, depending on the cucurbit species and the season. The losses caused in fruit crops by insect pests particularly by *Z. tau* have been estimated to be as high as 40 per cent of the production in Indonesia (Hasyim et al., 2004). Borah and Dutta (1997) reported that in Assam during Kharif and summer 1995-96, *Z. tau* and *Callantra* [= *Dacus*] sp. were found infesting cucurbit vegetables and snake gourd had the highest fruit infestation (62.62 per cent). In Himachal Pradesh the 80 per cent losses of vegetable crops have been reported by *Z. tau* and complex species (Prabhakar et al., 2009; Sood et al., 2010). Jaleel et al. (2018) reported that *Z. tau* is causing approximately 30-40 per cent losses of agricultural products every year in Asia. The *Z. tau* contains a complex of sibling species that called the *Z. tau* complex. *Z. tau* and complex species feed on varieties of agricultural crops (Allwood et al., 1999; Shi et al., 2017).

Nomenclature status :-



Fig. 1. *Zeugodacus tau*, male

Zeugodacus tau (Fig. 1) was described by Walker in 1849 from Fujian: Foochow (China) in the genus *Dasyneura*. Zia (1937) placed *Z. tau* in the genus *Chaetodacus*. Hardy (1959) treated it as a species belonging to the genus *Dacus* (*Zeugodacus*). White and Elson-Harris (1992) considered it a species under the genus *Bactrocera* and subgenus *Zeugodacus*. It has been known as *Dacus pictus* Froggatt, *Chaetodacus tau* (Walker), *Dacus caudatus* var. *nubilus* Hendel, *D. hageni* Meijere, *D. nubilus* Hendel, *D. tau* (Walker), *Dasyneura tau* Walker, *Z. nubilus* ssp. *femoralis* Hendel, *Dacus* (*Zeugodacus*) *elegantis* Tseng, Chen & Chu and *Dacus* (*Zeugodacus*) *flavus* Tseng, Chen & Chu. *Z. tau* is a very common species throughout south-east Asia. It is an economic pest species, mainly infesting cucurbit crops, but can be misidentified as it belongs to a complex (*Z. tau*-complex) of closely related species. Virgilio et al. (2015) investigated phylogenetic relationships within and among subtribes of the fruit fly tribe *Dacini* by sequencing four mitochondrial and one nuclear gene fragment and proved the monophyly of the *Dacini*. They raised the subgenus *Bactrocera* (*Zeugodacus*) to generic rank, *Zeugodacus* Hendel, stat. nov. and placed all species of subgenus (*Zeugodacus*) in the genus *Zeugodacus*. Dooreenweerd et al. (2018) published a global checklist of all 932 species of the tribe *Dacini*; of these 24 species were included in *Z. tau* complex. David and Ramani (2019) attempted to analyse phylogenetic relationships between three genera of the tribe *Dacini*, viz. *Bactrocera*, *Dacus* and *Zeugodacus* from India based on morphological characters. Cladistic analysis revealed the monophyly of *Dacini*, *Bactrocera* and *Dacus* with supporting non-homoplasious synapomorphies. *Zeugodacus* was retrieved as a monophyletic sister-group to *Dacus*.

Distribution :-

The distributional records of *Z. tau* are based on Agarwal and Sueyoshi (2005), Drew and Romig (2013), EPPO (2015) and CABI (2018).

India (Andaman & Nicobar Is., Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Bihar, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Chattisgarh, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Kerala, Maharashtra, Meghalaya, Punjab, Sikkim, Mizoram, Tripura, Tamil Nadu, Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, W. Bengal), Bhutan, Pakistan, Myanmar, Singapore, China (n. to Xizang, Chongqing, Shaanxi, Sichuan, Hubei, Guangdong, Hainan, Hong Kong, Guangxi, Yunnan, Zhejiang, Guizhou, Fujian Provinces), Bhutan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Taiwan, Laos, Philippines, Thailand, Cambodia, Vietnam, East Malaysia (Sabah, Sarawak), Peninsular Malaysia, Singapore, Brunei Darussalam, Indonesia (Sumatra, Bali, Java, Sulawesi), trapped Japan (Ishigaki Island).

Infestation and damage :-

Female flies prefer to lay eggs in tender host tissues by piercing them with ovipositor. In many hosts a watery fluid oozes from the puncture, which subsequently transforms into a brown resinous deposit. The damage to crops results from: (i) oviposition, (ii) larval feeding, and (iii) decomposition of host tissue due to invasion of secondary microorganisms (bacteria and fungi). Infested hosts (Fig. 2) become distorted, callused and usually drop (Vasudha and Agarwal, 2019). Extent of damage done by these flies depends upon their population density; hosts' availability, size and condition; and weather factors. Larvae bore their way into interior of the host, macerate the tissues and ingest the broken-down tissues and associated bacteria. Larval feeding converts the host tissues into a semi-liquid bad smelling mass.



Fig. 2. Infested bitter gourd by *Zeugodacus tau* larvae

Crop loss is often >60 per cent (Kapoor, 1993). The extent of losses done by fruit flies varies between 30 to 100 per cent, depending on the cucurbit species and the season (Dhillon et al., 2005). The fruit loss in passion caused by *Z. tau* was estimated as high as 40 per cent of the production (Hasyim et al. 2004). Hasyim et al. (2008) reported that percentage of damaged passion fruits by *Z. tau* was approximately 20 per cent in plot where sanitation was commenced while in other two plots it was 30-40 per cent.

Hosts :-

In India, hosts of fruit flies have been listed by Narayanan (1953), Narayanan and Batra (1960), Kapoor (1970), Kapoor and Agarwal (1983), Kapoor (1993). Batra (1968) listed hosts of *Z. tau* [(named as *Dacus* (*Zeugodacus*) *hageni* de Meijere (= *D. caudatus* Fabricius)] from India. Agarwal (1984) listed hosts of *Z. tau* from Bihar. White and Elson-Harris (1992) gave a

list of hosts of economically important fruit fly species occurring in different areas of the world. Allwood et al. (1999) listed hosts of fruit flies from south-east Asia. Hosts of *Z. tau* belong to the families: Anacardiaceae, Cucurbitaceae, Elaeocarpaceae, Moraceae, Myrtaceae, Oxalidaceae, Rutaceae, Sapotaceae, Solanaceae (Carroll et al., 2004 onwards). Kapoor (2005/6) and Singh et al. (2010) mentioned that it especially infests cucurbitaceous plants and other fleshy fruits. Drew and Romig (2013) mentioned that this fly has been reported infesting fruits of nine plant families but primarily species of Cucurbitaceae and listed some new hosts. Plant Health Australia (2016) also mentioned that fruits of families Arecaceae, Curcubitaceae, Fabaceae, Loganiaceae, Moraceae, Myrtaceae, Oleaceae, Sapotaceae and Vitaceae are infested by this fly. USDA (2016) published a probable host list of *Z. tau* to prevent the dissemination and establishment of this pest in United States. Liquido et al. (2016) mentioned that *Z. tau* infests 77 suitable hosts while 30 are undetermined hosts. Hosts of *Z. tau* have also been listed on the websites of CABI (2018) and by Jaleel et al. (2018). *Z. tau* co-exists with *Z. cucurbitae* and they infest nearly same hosts. A list of hosts of *Z. tau* is given in table- 1.

Table 1. List of host plants of *Zeugodacus tau**

Family	Common name	Scientific name	Reference(s)
ACHARIACEAE	-	Hydnocarpus anthelminticus	Jamnongluk et al. (2003); Sumrandee et al. (2011)
ANACARDIACEAE	Machang/ horse mango/malmut/ bachang	Mangifera foetida	White and Elson-Harris (1992)
ANACARDIACEAE	Mango	Mangifera indica	Narayanan and Batra(1960); Batra (1968); Kapoor (1970); Koizumi and Yamamoto (1972); Wee and Shelly (2013); CABI (2018)
ARECACEAE	Asian palmyra palm/ toddy palm/ sugar palm	Borassus flabellifer	Borah and Dutta (1996); Allwood et al. (1999); CABI (2018)
CARICACEAE	Papaya	Carica papaya	Borah and Dutta (1996)
CELASTRACEAE	Hyunja	Siphonodon celastrineus	Thanaphum and Thaenkham (2003)
CUCURBITACEAE	White gourd or wax gourd	Benincasa hispida	Batra (1968); Kapoor (1993); Huque (2006); CABI (2018)
CUCURBITACEAE	Colocynth, bitter apple, bitter cucumber, vine of Sodom	Citrullus colocynthis	White and Elson-Harris (1992)
CUCURBITACEAE	Watermelon	Citrullus lanatus	Narayanan and Batra (1960); Kapoor (1993); CABI (2018)
CUCURBITACEAE	Ivy gourd; voigt scarlet gourd	Coccinia grandis	Allwood et al. (1999); Baimai et al. (2000); Kitthawee and Dujardin (2010)
CUCURBITACEAE	Melon	Cucumis melo	Narayanan and Batra (1960); Koizumi and Yamamoto (1972); Allwood et al. (1999); Drew and Romig (2013); CABI (2018)

CUCURBITACEAE	Cucumber	<i>Cucumis sativus</i>	Narayanan and Batra (1960); Batra (1968); Kapoor (1970); Allwood et al. (1999); Huque (2006); Thakur and Gupta (2012); CABI (2018)
CUCURBITACEAE	Giant pumpkin	<i>Cucurbita maxima</i>	Narayanan and Batra (1960); Batra (1968); Kapoor (1970); Huque (2006); Singh et al. (2010); CABI (2018)
CUCURBITACEAE	Pumpkin, winter squash	<i>Cucurbita moschata</i>	Narayanan and Batra (1960); Jamnongluk et al. (2003); Sumrandee et al. (2011); Guoping et al. (2015); CABI (2018)
CUCURBITACEAE	Marrow, field pumpkin	<i>Cucurbita pepo</i>	Allwood et al. (1999); Prabhakar et al. (2009); Shen et al. (2014); CABI (2018)
CUCURBITACEAE	Bryony/striped cucumber	<i>Diplocyclos palmatus</i>	Koizumi and Yamamoto (1972); Kapoor (1993)
CUCURBITACEAE	Mao zhui xing guo	<i>Gomphogyne cissiformis</i>	Allwood et al. (1999)
CUCURBITACEAE	Bottle gourd, calabash	<i>Lagenaria siceraria</i>	Batra (1968); Kapoor (1970); Koizumi and Yamamoto (1972); White and Elson Harris (1992); Kapoor (1993); Prabhakar et al. (2009)
CUCURBITACEAE	Ribbed gourd, angled luffa	<i>Luffa acutangula</i>	Narayanan and Batra (1960); Batra (1968); Kapoor (1970); Koizumi and Yamamoto (1972); Drew and Romig (2013); CABI (2018)
CUCURBITACEAE	Sponge gourd, smooth luffa, Egyptian luffa	<i>Luffa aegyptica</i>	Narayanan and Batra (1960); Kapoor (1970); Kapoor (1993); Borah and Dutta (1996); Allwood et al. (1999); CABI (2018)
CUCURBITACEAE	Vernonia Tree, serpent gourd, padwal	<i>Gymnopetalum integrifolium</i>	Allwood et al. (1999)
CUCURBITACEAE	Chinese lardfruit	<i>Hodgsonia macrocarpa</i>	Allwood et al. (1999)
CUCURBITACEAE	Chui Guo Ma Die Er	<i>Zehneria wallichii</i>	Allwood et al. (1999)
CUCURBITACEAE	Bitter gourd	<i>Momordica charantia</i>	Kapoor (1970); White and Elson-Harris (1992); Kapoor (1993); Allwood et al. (1999); Prabhakar et al. (2009); Shen et al. (2014); CABI (2018)

CUCURBITACEAE	Spiny bitter cucumber, Gac fruit, Kakrol, Kakur, Kantola	Momordica cochinchinensis	Allwood et al. (1999); Sumrandee et al. (2011)
CUCURBITACEAE	Monk fruit	Siraitia grosvenorii	Liu et al. (2005)
CUCURBITACEAE	Macassar ebony	Trichosanthes celebica	Allwood et al. (1999)
CUCURBITACEAE	Snake gourd, serpent gourd, chichinga	Trichosanthes cucumerina	Narayanan and Batra (1960); Batra (1968); Kapoor (1970); Kapoor (1993); Allwood et al. (1999); Baimai et al. (2000); Huque (2006); CABI (2018)
CUCURBITACEAE	Parval or pointed gourd	Trichosanthes dioica	Huque (2006)
CUCURBITACEAE	Japanese snake gourd	Trichosanthes ovigera	Christenson and Foote (1960); Allwood et al. (1999)
CUCURBITACEAE	-	Trichosanthes pubera subsp. rubriflos	Allwood et al. (1999)
CUCURBITACEAE	Mahakal, Indrayan	Trichosanthes tricuspidata	Narayanan and Batra (1960); Kapoor (1970); Allwood et al. (1999); Sumrandee et al. (2011)
CUCURBITACEAE	-	Trichosanthes wallichiana	Allwood et al. (1999)
CUCURBITACEAE	Lollipop climber	Bryonia lacinosa	Narayanan and Batra (1960); Kapoor (1970)
FABACEAE	Common bean, kidney bean	Phaseolus vulgaris	Borah and Dutta (1996); Allwood et al. (1999); CABI (2018)
GENTIANACEAE	Perfume flower tree, pua keni keni, trai tichlan	Fagraea ceilanica	Allwood et al. (1999)
LOGANIACEAE	Nux vomica	Strychnos nux-vomica	Allwood et al. (1999)
LOGANIACEAE	-	Strychnos rupicola	Allwood et al. (1999)
MELASTOMATACEAE	Malabar melastome, Indian-rhododendron, Shapti	Melastoma malabathrica	Drew and Romig (2013)
MORACEAE	Jackfruit	Artocarpus heterophyllus	White and Elson-Harris (1992); Kapoor (1993); Drew and Romig (2013)
MORACEAE	Cluster fig, Indian fig	Ficus racemosa	Borah and Dutta (1996); Allwood et al. (1999); CABI (2018)
MORACEAE	Dye fig, humped fig	Ficus tinctoria	Drew and Romig (2013)
MORACEAE	Mulberry	Morus sp.	White and Elson-Harris (1992) (unconfirmed record)

MUNTINGIACEAE	Calabur tree, Jamaica cherry, Panama berry	Muntingia calabura	White and Elson-Harris (1992)
MYRTACEAE	Wax apple, water apple, rose apple	Syzygium samarangense	Christenson and Foote (1960); Kapoor (1970); White and Elson-Harris (1992); Kapoor (1993)
MYRTACEAE	Malay rose apple, otaheite cashew, pommerac	Syzygium malaccense	White and Elson-Harris (1992)
MYRTACEAE	Guava	Psidium guajava	Allwood et al. (1999); Wee and Shelly (2013); CABI (2018)
MYRTACEAE	Malabar plum, mountain App	Syzygium jambos	Drew and Romig (2013)
OLEACEAE	Chathuravalli, Chathuramulla	Myxopyrum smilacifolium	Allwood et al. (1999)
OXALIDACEAE	Star fruit	Averrhoa carambola	Koizumi and Yamamoto (1972); Wee and Shelly (2013)
PASSIFLORACEAE	Passion fruit	Passiflora edulis	Octriana (2010); Drew and Romig (2013); Hasyim et al. (2008); CABI (2018)
RUBIACEAE	Great morinda, Indian mulberry, beach mulberry	Morinda citrifolia	Drew and Romig (2013)
RUTACEAE	Pomelo	Citrus maxima	Narayanan and Batra (1960); Kapoor (1970); Kapoor (1993)
RUTACEAE	Mandarin Tangerine	Citrus reticulata	Wu et al. (2011); Zhang et al. (2012)
RUTACEAE	Orange	C. sinensis	Zhang et al. (2012)
SAPINDACEAE	Longan	Dimocarpus longan	Borah and Dutta (1996), CABI (2018)
SAPOTACEAEA	Sapota, sapodilla	Manilkara zapota	Narayanan and Batra (1960); Kapoor (1970); Borah and Dutta (1996); Drew and Romig (2013); CABI (2018)
SOLANACEAE	Bell pepper, paprika	Capsicum annum	Borah and Dutta (1996); Pal and Choudhuri (2007); CABI (2018)
SOLANACEAE	Chilli pepper	Capsicum frutescens	Borah and Dutta (1996); Wang (1996)
SOLANACEAE	Tomato	Solanum lycopersicum	Narayanan and Batra (1960); Batra (1960); Kapoor (1970); Koizumi and Yamamoto (1972); Boopathi et al. (2017)
VITACEAE	Bherseri	Tetrastigma lanceolarium	Allwood et al. (1999)
VITACEAE	Grapes	Vitis vinifera	Margosian et al. (2007)

*Hosts of *Zeugodacus tau* as cited in probable host list (USDA, 2016) to prevent the dissemination and establishment of *Zeugodacus tau* in the United States are not included.

Conclusion :-

Pumpkin fruit fly, *Zeugodacus* (*Zeugodacus*) *tau* (Walker) has been reporting 62 hosts and mostly prefers cucurbits. The fly is well distributed throughout India and south-east Asia. It damages hosts due to larval feeding and decomposition of host tissue due to invasion of secondary microorganisms (bacteria and fungi). Its population can be kept under threshold levels through effective management strategies in crop fields by employing in a unified programme with community approaches for getting better results.

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