



# Insects Associated with Sesamum (*Sesamum indicum* L.) near Paralakhemundi region

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## Abstract:

Field experiments were conducted during Rabi, 2018-19 and Summer, 2019 at research field of Department of Entomology, MSSSoA, CUTM, Paralakhemundi, Odisha to record the insect fauna associated with Sesamum crop. Under agroclimatic conditions of Odisha, it attracted 24 species belonging to 17 families under 8 Orders. Species wise diversity of pests indicated that 4 species belonging to order Hemiptera, Lepidoptera, Orthoptera and Thysanoptera each contributing one species. Among other 17 species, 2 species belonging to one each from Coleopteran and Neuroptera were the common predators of pest of the Sesamum crops and 11 species belonging to four families viz., Apidae, Megachillidae, Vespidae and Halictidae under single order Hymenoptera.

**Keyword:** Insect fauna, Sesamum, Pest, Predators and Pollinators

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Sesamum, *Sesamum indicum* L. belongs to the family Pedaliaceae is an important oil seed crop of India which is commonly known as til. This crop was chosen to study the occurrence of pollinators near Paralakhemundi, Odisha. Along-with pollinators studies, additional investigation was also made to record the association of insect fauna complex with the Sesamum crop those play positive or negative role in the crop yield.

## MATERIAL AND METHOD IS MISSING

In order to record the insect associated with Sesamum crop observations on insect fauna associated with Sesamum in open pollination plot were made during the early flowering i.e. at 10 per cent flowering stage coinciding with 35-40 DAS till harvesting of the crop. The insects including pollinators occurring at flowering stage of the crops were recorded, collected and preserved following standard methods and were identified" as materials and methods

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results of the present investigation revealed that Sesamum is a store house of insect fauna. It supported an array of insects, the commonly occurring insects belonging to 24 species, 17 families under 8 Orders (Table 1). Besides, many other butterflies, true flies, beetles and sucking insect made their stray visit to the crop at specific crop growth stages while pollinators occurred during flowering stages chiefly. The crop is not only important as a major oilseed crop but also played a vital role in ecosystem sustenance in various ways.

Among the 7 species of pests associated with the crop 4 species belonging to order Hemiptera, Lepidoptera,

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