

LIFE- FECUNDITY TABLES OF *CRYPTOLAEMUS MONTROUZIERI* (MULSANT) ON *MACONELLYCOCCUS HIRSUTUS* (GREEN)

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Abstract— The laboratory experiment was conducted to study the life-fecundity of *Cryptolaemus montrouzieri* (Mulsant) on *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green) at biocontrol laboratory, Department of Agricultural Entomology, College of Agriculture, Latur during 2013-14. The net reproductive rate (R_0), the precise generation time (T) and innate capacity for increase in number (r_m) of *C. montrouzieri* (Mulsant) on *M. hirsutus* was observed to be 64.38 females per female per generation, 62.09 days and 0.0710 female per female per day, respectively.

Keywords— life fecundity, *Cryptolaemus montrouzieri*, *Maconellicoccus hirsutus*.

I. INTRODUCTION

Mealy bugs have been reported as serious pest of grapevine in India. Grape production is often adversely affected due to the mealy bugs to the extent of damage being as much as 100 per cent in extreme cases in India (Babu and Azam, 1989). It is very difficult to get perfect control of the mealy bugs with conventional insecticides due to their concealed habitat and waxy coating over their bodies. The continuous usage of insecticides results into the outbreak of the mealy bugs (Manjunath, 1985). Biological control is considered as effective long term solution to mealy bug infestation, apart from environmental and health risks associated with repeated exposures to chemical insecticides or its residues, pest resistance and pest resurgence. The biological control of mealy bugs through coccinellid predators is one of the best alternatives. Both larval and adult stages of this predator attack all stages of mealy bugs (Gautam, 1996).

The Coccinellids have emerged as strong and potent biocontrol agent and result oriented researches are further needed continuously to ascertain their efficiency in the integrated pest management programme. Hence keeping this in view, the investigations on life-fecundity of *Cryptolaemus montrouzieri* (Mulsant) on *Maconellicoccus hirsutus* (Green) were conducted during 2013-2014.

II. MATERIAL AND METHODS

The culture of *C. montrouzieri* available with the National Bureau of Agriculturally Important Insects, Bangalore was used for these studies.

Mass multiplication of *M. hirsutus* on pumpkins-

The laboratory technique of rearing of mealy bugs on ripe red pumpkins, *Cucurbita maxima* standardized by Chacko *et al.* (1978) and Singh (1978) was used. The red ripe pumpkins having ridges and grooves with small stalk were used for multiplication of mealy

bugs. The pumpkins were washed with tap water to remove dust particles and then dipped in a solution of Bavistin 0.1 per cent to kill the pathogens. The injured pumpkins were discarded and minor wounds were plugged with hot paraffin wax and then dried. For shallow grooveless pumpkins, a simple roping technique was followed. This facilitated rapid multiplication of mealy bugs on shallow grooves and grooveless pumpkins. Care was taken to treat the ropes "Sutali" with Bavistin solution. The rearing cages having size of 30 x 30 x 30 cm with slanting glass top were used for multiplication of mealy bugs. All other sides of cages were fitted with 40 gauge nylon mesh with the provision of sleeve on front side. The care was taken to close all cracks and crevices of the wooden cages to prevent escape of early instars of the mealy bugs.

Inoculation of egg masses of mealy bug on pumpkins-

The pumpkins were inoculated with egg masses of *M. hirsutus* with the help of wet camel hair brush. Number of egg sacs placed on each pumpkin varied according to size of pumpkin. The pumpkins were then kept in wooden cages. The inoculation was done with ovisacs of *M. hirsutus* throughout period of study. The ambient temperature and relative humidity of the laboratory ranged from 25°C to 30°C and 65 to 75 per cent, respectively.

Experimental design-

The studies on life-fecundity of *C. montrouzieri* on *M. hirsutus* was carried out in a completely randomized design replicated five times at the temperature of 25 ± 2°C maintained in BOD incubator by studying 100 eggs in a group of 20 in each replication. All the grubs soon after hatching were reared individually. The observations were made daily on egg hatching, larval and pupal development, successful adult emergence, fecundity and age-specific mortality in eggs, larvae, pupae and adults. Adults emerged on a particular day were

transferred into a petridish in the ratio of 1:1 for determining the age-specific fecundity. The third instar nymphs of *M. hirsutus* were provided daily to the adults as food.

Statistical Analysis

Age-specific survival and life-fecundity table was constructed using pivotal age in days (x), survival of females at age 'x' (l_x), age schedule for female births at age 'x' (m_x) (Andrewartha and Birch, 1954). Several population growth parameters including net reproductive rate (R_0), finite rate of increase (λ), mean generation time (T_c), and intrinsic rate of increase (r_m) were estimated based on the recorded data on life-fecundity and survival schedule.

Equation used-

1. Net reproductive rate:	$R_0 = \sum l_x m_x$
2. Mean generation time:	$T_c = \frac{\sum l_x m_x x}{R_0}$
3. Innate capacity for increase in numbers:	$r_c = \frac{\text{Log}_e R_0}{T_c}$
4. The precise generation time (T):	$T = \frac{\text{Log}_e R_0}{r_m}$
5. The finite rate of natural increase (λ):	$\lambda = \text{Anti log}_e r_m$
6. Stable age-distribution:	$I_x = \frac{l_x + (l_x + 1)}{2}$

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results presented in Table 1 indicated that the survival of *C. montrouzieri* on third instar nymphs of *M. hirsutus* was 91, 91 and 85 per cent in respect of egg, larval and pupal stages, respectively in a cohort of 100 eggs. During the course of rearing from egg to adult emergence 41 and 43 per cent male and female adults, respectively were emerged successfully. The male to female sex ratio was 1:1.04. The data (Table 2) showed that the survival of immature stages (l_x) was 0.85 per individual within a pivotal age of 42 days on *M. hirsutus*. The pre-oviposition period ranged from 43 to 49 days of pivotal age. The highest female births (5.15) was observed on 18th day of oviposition at 67th day of pivotal age and thereafter female births decreased. The first female mortality was observed on 62nd day ($l_x=0.84$) of pivotal age. The female laid eggs for 34 days. The net reproductive rate (R_0) representing the total females per female per generation was 82.16. Thus the population of *C. montrouzieri* was able to multiply 82.16 times per generation on *M. hirsutus*.

The results (Table 3) revealed that the mean length of generation (T_c) was found to be 64.38 days. The arbitrary value for intrinsic rate of increase (r_c) was 0.068 female per female per day. The precise generation time (T) was 62.09 days, while the finite rate of increase in numbers (λ) was 1.07 females per female per day. The corrected innate capacity for increase in numbers (r_m) was 0.0710 female per female per day. It is evident from Table 4 that on reducing stable age-distribution, population of *C. montrouzieri* on *M. hirsutus* in egg, larval, pupal and adult stages was distributed to the extent of 48.37, 45.65, 1.54 and 0.59 per cent, respectively.

The findings on life-fecundity tables of *C. montrouzieri* are in good line with the data reported by Persad and Khan (2002) who found that the net reproductive rate (R_0), the generation time (T) and the finite rate of increase (λ) of *C. montrouzieri* was observed to be 227.18, 40.13 days and 1.14, respectively. The egg stage contributed 52.30 per cent while the combined larval, pupal and the adult stages contributed 45.91, 1.44 and 0.35 per cent to the stable age-distribution, respectively (when $r_m = 0.135$).

According to Birch (1948), the comparison of two or more population by means of their net reproductive rates may be quite misleading unless the mean length of generation are the same. Two or more populations may have the same reproductive rate but their intrinsic rates of increase may be quite different because of different length of their generations.

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Table 1 : Survival of life-stages of *C. montrouzieri* on *M. hirsutus*

Number of eggs observed	Number of survived life-stages				
	Eggs	Larvae	Pupae	Adults	
	(0-5 days duration)	(6-31 days duration)	(32-42 days duration)	Male	Female
20	18	18	16	07	09
20	16	16	14	06	08
20	20	20	18	12	06
20	18	18	18	07	11
20	19	19	18	09	09
100	91	91	85	41	43

Table 2 : Life-table and age-specific fecundity of *C. montrouzieri* on *M. hirsutus*

Pivotal age in days	Survival of females at different age intervals	Age schedule for female birth	$l_x m_x$	$l_x m_x X$
X	l_x	m_x		
0-42	0.85	Immature stages		
43-49	0.85	Pre-oviposition period		
50	0.85	2.45	2.08	104.13
51	0.85	2.75	2.34	119.21
52	0.85	2.80	2.38	123.39
53	0.85	2.85	2.42	128.86
54	0.85	2.90	2.47	133.11
55	0.85	3.10	2.64	144.93
56	0.85	3.05	2.59	145.18
57	0.83	4.05	3.44	196.22
58	0.85	3.00	2.55	147.90
59	0.85	3.60	3.06	180.54
60	0.85	3.45	2.93	175.95
61	0.85	3.60	3.06	186.66
62	0.84	4.05	3.40	210.92
63	0.84	4.15	3.49	219.62
64	0.84	4.20	3.53	225.79
65	0.84	4.25	3.57	232.05
66	0.84	4.45	3.74	246.71
67	0.84	5.15	4.33	289.84
68	0.84	3.60	3.02	205.03
69	0.81	3.40	2.75	190.03
70	0.76	3.25	2.47	172.90
71	0.76	2.75	2.09	148.39
72	0.76	2.80	2.13	153.22
73	0.72	2.75	1.98	144.54
74	0.72	2.70	1.94	143.86
75	0.72	2.50	1.80	135.00
76	0.71	2.40	1.70	129.50
77	0.71	2.40	1.70	131.21
78	0.67	2.20	1.47	114.97
79	0.67	2.05	1.37	108.51
80	0.67	2.05	1.37	109.88
81	0.65	1.80	1.17	94.770
82	0.65	0.90	0.59	47.970
83	0.65	0.90	0.59	48.560
		$\sum l_x m_x =$	$\sum l_x m_x X =$	
		82.16	5289.8	

Table 3 : The mean length of generation, innate capacity for increase in numbers and finite rate of increase in numbers of *C. montrouzieri* on *M. hirsutus*

Population growth statistics	
Mean length of generation	
$T_c = \frac{\sum l_x m_x X}{R_0}$	64.38 days
Innate capacity for increase in numbers	
$r_c = \frac{\text{Log}_e R_0}{T_c}$	0.068 female/female/day
Arbitrary $r_m (r_c), 0.07, 0.08, 0.09$	
Corrected $r_m \sum^{7-ermx} l_x m_x = 1096.6$	0.0710 female/female/day
Corrected generation time	
$T = \frac{\text{Log}_e R_0}{r_m}$	62.09 days
Finite rate of increase in numbers (λ)	
$\lambda = \text{antilog}_{e r_m}$	1.07 females/female/day

Table 4 : Stable age-distribution of *C. montrouzieri* on *M. hirsutus* when $r_m = 0.0710$

Age group in days (x)	Survival of individual at different age intervals (l _x)	Stable age-distribution $l_x = \left[\frac{l_x + l_{x+1}}{2} \right]$	e^{7-rm} (x+1)	$L_x \cdot e^{-rm}$ (x+1)	Percentage distribution	
0	1.00	1.00	0.8918	0.8918	10.53	Egg 48.37
1	1.00	1.00	0.7953	0.7953	9.3926	
2	1.00	1.00	0.7093	0.7092	8.3764	
3	1.00	1.00	0.6325	0.6325	7.4702	
4	1.00	1.00	0.5641	0.5641	6.6620	
5	1.00	1.00	0.5031	0.5030	5.9412	Larvae 45.65
6	1.00	1.00	0.4487	0.4486	5.2985	
7	1.00	1.00	0.4001	0.4001	4.7252	
8	1.00	1.00	0.3568	0.3568	4.2140	
9	1.00	1.00	0.3182	0.3182	3.7581	
10	1.00	1.00	0.2838	0.2837	3.3515	
11	1.00	1.00	0.2531	0.2530	2.9889	
12	1.00	0.99	0.2257	0.2234	2.6389	
13	0.98	0.98	0.2013	0.1972	2.3296	
14	0.98	0.98	0.1795	0.1795	2.0776	
15	0.98	0.98	0.1601	0.1568	1.8528	
16	0.98	0.98	0.1428	0.1399	1.6524	Pupae 1.54
17	0.98	0.97	0.1273	0.1235	1.4586	
18	0.96	0.96	0.1136	0.1090	1.2874	
19	0.96	0.96	0.1013	0.0972	1.1481	
20	0.96	0.96	0.0903	0.0866	1.0239	
21	0.96	0.96	0.0805	0.0773	0.9131	
22	0.96	0.96	0.0718	0.0689	0.8143	
23	0.96	0.96	0.0641	0.0614	0.7262	
24	0.96	0.94	0.0571	0.0536	0.6342	
25	0.92	0.92	0.0509	0.0468	0.5535	
26	0.92	0.92	0.0454	0.0417	0.4936	
27	0.92	0.92	0.0405	0.0372	0.4402	
28	0.92	0.895	0.0361	0.0323	0.3891	
29	0.87	0.87	0.0322	0.0280	0.3311	
30	0.87	0.87	0.0287	0.0250	0.2953	
31	0.87	0.87	0.0256	0.0222	0.2633	
32	0.87	0.87	0.0229	0.0198	0.2348	
33	0.87	0.87	0.0204	0.0117	0.2094	
34	0.87	0.87	0.0182	0.0158	0.1868	
35	0.87	0.86	0.0162	0.0162	0.1656	
36	0.86	0.86	0.0145	0.0140	0.1468	
37	0.86	0.86	0.0129	0.0124	0.1310	
38	0.86	0.86	0.0115	0.0110	0.1168	
39	0.86	0.86	0.0103	0.0098	0.1042	
40	0.86	0.86	0.0091	0.0088	0.0929	
41	0.86	0.85	0.0082	0.0078	0.0824	
42	0.85	0.85	0.0073	0.0069	0.0730	

43	0.85	0.85	0.0065	0.0061	0.0651
44	0.85	0.85	0.0058	0.0055	0.0581
45	0.85	0.85	0.0052	0.0049	0.0518
46	0.85	0.85	0.0046	0.0043	0.0462
47	0.85	0.85	0.0041	0.0039	0.0412
48	0.85	0.85	0.0033	0.0034	0.0367
49	0.85	0.85	0.0029	0.0031	0.0328
50	0.85	0.85	0.0026	0.0027	0.0292
51	0.85	0.85	0.0023	0.0024	0.0261
52	0.85	0.85	0.0021	0.0022	0.0232
53	0.85	0.85	0.0018	0.0019	0.0207
54	0.85	0.85	0.0016	0.0017	0.0185
55	0.85	0.85	0.0015	0.0015	0.0165
56	0.85	0.85	0.0013	0.0013	0.0147
57	0.85	0.85	0.0012	0.0012	0.0131
58	0.85	0.85	0.0011	0.0011	0.0117
59	0.85	0.85	0.0009	0.0009	0.0104
60	0.85	0.85	0.0008	0.0008	0.0093
61	0.85	0.84	0.0007	0.0007	0.0082
62	0.84	0.84	0.0006	0.0006	0.0073
63	0.84	0.84	0.0006	0.0006	0.0065
64	0.84	0.84	0.0007	0.0007	0.0058
65	0.84	0.84	0.0006	0.0005	0.0052
66	0.84	0.84	0.0005	0.0004	0.0046
67	0.84	0.84	0.0005	0.0003	0.0041
68	0.84	0.82	0.0004	0.0003	0.0036
69	0.81	0.78	0.0004	0.0003	0.0031
70	0.67	0.76	0.0003	0.0002	0.0026
71	0.72	0.76	0.0003	0.0002	0.0024
72	0.72	0.74	0.0002	0.0001	0.0020
73	0.72	0.72	0.0002	0.0001	0.0018
74	0.72	0.72	0.0002	0.0001	0.0016
75	0.72	0.71	0.0002	0.0001	0.0016
76	0.71	0.71	0.0001	0.0001	0.0012
77	0.71	0.69	0.0001	9.1235	0.0011
78	0.67	0.67	0.0001	7.9006	0.0009
79	0.67	0.67	0.0001	7.0459	0.0008
80	0.67	0.66	0.0001	6.1898	0.0007
81	0.65	0.65	0.0001	5.436	0.0006
82	0.65	0.65	0.0001	4.8483	0.0006
83	0.65	0.32	1.0000	0.3250	3.8381

Adult
0.59

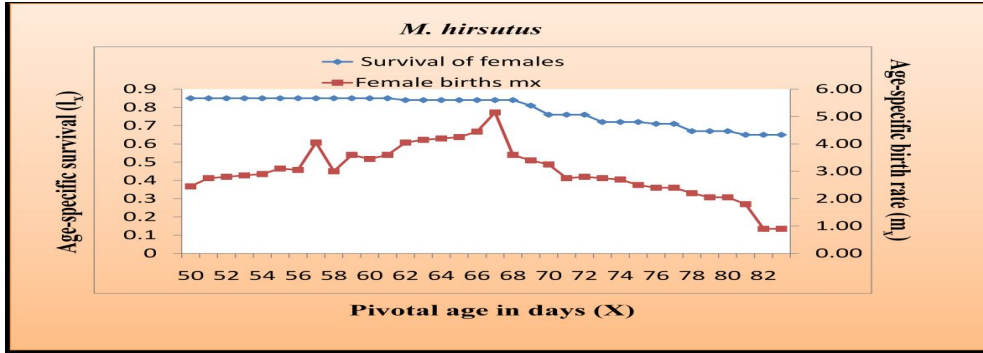


Fig 1- Daily age-specific survival (l_x) and birth rate (m_x) of *C. montrouzieri* on *M. hirsutus*

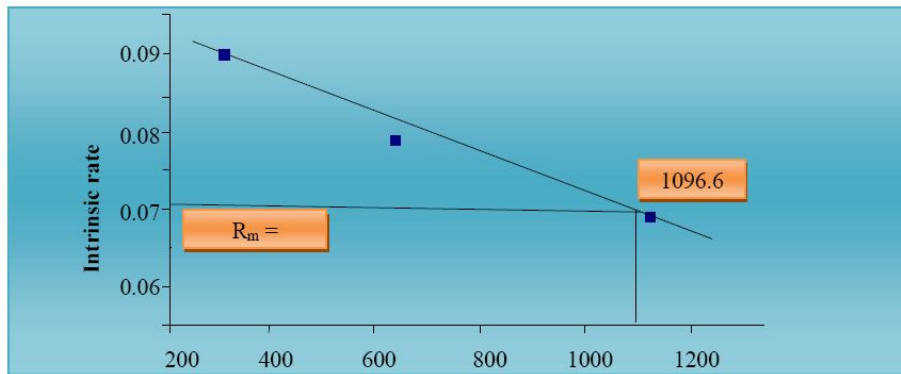


Fig. 2 : Determination of the intrinsic rate of increase (r_m) of *C. montrouzieri* on *M. hirsutus*

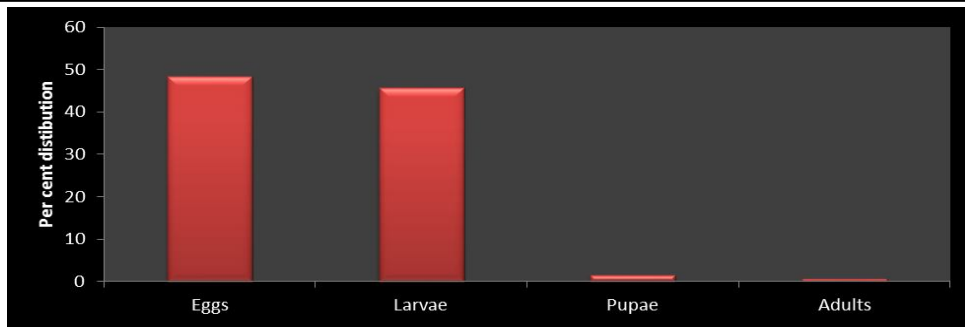


Fig3 –Contribution of various life stages of *C. montrouzieri* towards stable age distribution on *M. hirsutus*
