

OUTBREAKS AND NEW RECORDS

New record of *Beauveria bassiana* (Bals) Vuill, an entomogenous fungus on mango hopper *Idioscopus* spp. G.M.TRIPATHI, N.L.M.TRIPATHI and R.S. MISRA, Horticultural Experiment and Training Centre, Basti - 272001, U.P.

The mango hoppers *Idioscopus clypealis*, *I. nitidulus* and *Amritodus atkinsoni* are considered to be the most destructive pests of mango. During the survey of mango orchards at Horticultural Experiment and Training Centre, Basti, authors could find the mango hopper (*Idioscopus* spp.) dying on the leaves of mango trees during July to October, 1988. Fruiting bodies of the fungus were seen on the exterior parts of the insect body covering the whole insect, converting into white mummies.

The fungus was isolated, cultured on PDA medium and incubated at $24 \pm 1^\circ\text{C}$. The cultures on the petridishes appeared as white and cushiony growth of the mycelium, which converted into chalky

powdery mass due to production of myriads of spores by the fungus. The conidiophores were hyaline, erect, slender, unbranched (seldom forked) with short side branches. The fungus was identified as *Beauveria bassiana* (Bals) Vuill (CMI, London) an entomogenous fungus which is generally referred to as white muscardine fungus causing disease of silkworm.

Beauveria bassiana has been reported on various insects in India. However, on mango hoppers, this seems to be a new record.

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