

Vol 4 Issue 9 June 2015

ISSN No : 2249-894X

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*Monthly Multidisciplinary  
Research Journal*

*Review Of  
Research Journal*

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RNI MAHMUL/2011/38595

ISSN No.2249-894X

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International Recognized Double-Blind Peer Reviewed Multidisciplinary Research Journal

## Review Of Research

ISSN 2249-894X

Volume - 4 | Issue - 9 | June - 2015

Impact Factor :3.1402(UIF)

Available online at [www.ror.isrj.org](http://www.ror.isrj.org)

### BIODIVERSITY OF JASSIDS FROM AGROECOSYSTEMS OF SIDHI DISTRICT (M.P.)



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#### Short Profile

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#### ABSTRACT:

Jassids (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae) are cell sap sucking insects of plants of economic importance. While sucking the cell sap they inject toxins into the plant body and cause yellowing and curling of leaves and flowers. Eventually, growth of the plant is retarded and flowering and fruiting bodies drop down. The sooty moulds affect photosynthesis and the yield of crops. Therefore, biodiversity of Jassids has been reported from Sidhi district. In all, 22 species of Jassids belonging to

the genera *Deltocephalus*, *Empoasca*, *Nilaparvata*, *Nephotettix*, *Recilia*, *Cofta* and *Typhlocyba* have been found damaging various crops of Sidhi district.

#### KEYWORDS

*Jassids, Diversity, agroecosystems, Sidhi district.*

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## INTRODUCTION

Jassids (Hemiptera: Cicadellidae) are wedge shaped insects which walk diagonally and suck the cell sap from piercing type of mouth parts. While sucking the cell sap they inject toxins into the plant body which results yellowing and curling of leaves, dropping down of flowering and fruiting bodies. They secrete honey due like sticky substance which create sooty mould on leaves and affect photosynthesis, growth and finally the yield of the crop. Correct identity and making the index of crop plants and jassids from the region therefore, has practical relevance. Hence, the present work was carried out. In past several workers (Baker, 1924; Datta,1922; Distant,1908,1918; Pruthi,1930,1936; Hussain and Pruthi,1923; Rao,1980; Singh,1989; Das and Vrakmath,1998; Sathe and Margaj, 2001; etc.) worked on diversity of jassids from India. However, very little is known from Madhya Pradesh on this important group of insects.

Materials and Methods: Sidhi is one of the important district, head quarters of Rewa commissionerary of Madhya Pradesh, it is situated about 85 kilometers South East of Rewa and about 192 kms. North-East of Shahdol. It lies between longitude 81°-15' and 82°-49' East and latitude 24°-42' and 24°-42' North, almost in the East corner of the Rewa Division.

Jassids have been collected from various ecosystems of Sidhi district of Madhya Pradesh. The collected samples were examined and identified by consulting appropriate literature (Distant, 1908, 1918; Datta, 1912; Pruthi, 1930 and 1936). The specimens are time being with Dept. of Zoology, Govt. SGS P.G. College Sidhi M.P., in due course of time. Occurrence of the species was studied by visiting various ecosystems at 15days interval and by one man one hour search method.

**Table-1: Diversity of Jassids from Sidhi district M.P.**

S. No.	Scientific name	Family	Host plants	Features	Occurance
1.	Brown plant hopper <i>Nilaparavata lugena</i> (Stal.)	Delphacidae	Paddy <i>Oryza sativa</i> L.	Body and eyes brownish, 4mm long, nymph brownish black.	Throughout year, abundant Oct-Feb.
2.	White black plant hopper <i>Sogatella furcifera</i> (Horv.)	Delphacidae	Paddy <i>Oryza sativa</i> L.	Adult straw coloured. nymph greyish white.	Throughout year.
3.	Green leaf hopper <i>Nephotettix nigropictus</i> (Stal.)	Cicadellidae	Paddy <i>Oryza sativa</i> L.	Adult greenish and smaller in size.	July-Aug.
4.	<i>Nephotettix virescens</i> (Distant)	Cicadellidae	Paddy <i>Oryza sativa</i> L.	Adult green.	July-Aug.
5.	White leaf hopper <i>Cotta spectra</i> (Distant)	Cicadellidae	Paddy <i>Oryza sativa</i> L. Maize <i>Zea mays</i> L. Jowar <i>Sorghum vulgare</i> L.	Adult yellowish, 4 black spots on vertex, 6mm long.	July-March
6.	Zigzag leaf hopper <i>Recilia dorsalis</i> (Mots.)	Cicadellidae	Paddy <i>Oryza sativa</i> L.	Adult whitish grey, 'V' shaped zigzag lines on wing, 3.5mm long.	July-Oct.
7.	Blue leaf hopper <i>Typhlocyba maculifrons</i> (Mots.)	Cicadellidae	Paddy <i>Oryza sativa</i> L. Maize <i>Zea mays</i> L. Jowar <i>Sorghum vulgare</i> L. Sugarcane <i>Saccharum</i> sp.	Adult bluish with black spot on mid pronotum, yellow vertex.	July-Oct.
8.	<i>Amrasca</i> spp	Cicadellidae	Wheat <i>Triticum</i> sp.	Wedge shaped	Aug.-Dec.
9.	<i>Laodephax striatella</i> (Fall.)	Delphacidae	Wheat <i>Triticum</i> sp.	Walk diagonally	Aug.-Dec.
10.	Grapevine leaf hopper <i>Erythroneura</i> sp.	Cicadellidae	Grape vine <i>Vitis vinifera</i> L.	Greenish yellow Spring	—

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11.	<i>Idioscopus clypealis</i> (Lethi.)	Cicadellidae	Mango <i>angifera indica</i> L.	Grey, 6.0mm long	Feb.-April
12.	<i>Idioscopus atkinsoni</i> (Lethi.)	Cicadellidae	Mango <i>angifera indica</i> L.	Grey, 5.0mm long	July-Aug.
13.	Potato Jassid <i>Hishimonus phycitus</i> (Distant)	Cicadellidae	Potato <i>Solanum tuberosum</i> L.	Wedge shaped, walk diagonally	July-Nov.
14.	Cotton Jassid <i>Empoasca devastan</i> (Distant)	Cicadellidae	Cotton <i>Gossypium arboreum</i> Greenish,	yellow, 3mm long.	July-Nov.
15.	<i>Empoasca notata</i> (Mel.)	Cicadellidae	Cotton <i>Gossypium hirsutum</i> L.	Green, wedge shaped.	July-Jan.
16.	<i>Empoasca flarescens</i> (Distant)	Cicadellidae	Castor <i>Ricinus communis</i> L.	Pale.	July-Jan.
17.	<i>Empoasca kerri</i> (Pruthi)	Cicadellidae	Castor <i>Ricinus communis</i> L.	Wedge shaped,	July-Jan.
18.	<i>Empoasca parathea</i> (Pruthi)	Cicadellidae	Castor <i>Ricinus communis</i> L.	Walk diagonally.	July-Jan.
19.	<i>Deltocephalus vulgaris</i>	Cicadellidae	Jowar <i>Sorghum vulgare</i> L.	Wedge shaped, ocherus. Aedeagus strongly narrow at apex.	Aug- Sept.
20.	<i>Deltocephalus trisuli</i>	Cicadellidae	Grass	Female 3.5mm long, aedeagus small and short.	Aug- Sept.
21.	<i>Deltocephalus truncatus</i>	Cicadellidae	Grass Ocherus,	pronotum with two lateral longitudinal strips.	Aug- Sept.
22.	<i>Deltocephalus brevis</i>	Cicadellidae	Grass Ocherus,	antennal cavity dark brown.	July- Sept.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

Results are recorded in table-1. In all, 22 species of Jassids have been reported from Sidhi district. Most of the species were prevalent in the region in monsoon season. However, some of the species of genera *Nilaparvata*, *Sogatella* and *Deltocephalus* were found throughout the year. *Deltocephalus* genus was mostly associated with grassland ecosystems. The species of *Empoasca* were found most destructive to the cotton and castor crops in Madhya Pradesh. Castor plants persisted most of time of the year therefore, *Empoasca* complex was also more persistent on castor ecosystems. Mango Jassids were found throughout the year on the crop but during hot months, May-June and cold months, October-January only adults were found sitting in the cracks and crevices of tree trunk. The Jassids population peaks on mango ecosystem were from July-August which damaged new sprouting leaves. Second peak was observed in February synchronizing blossoming of the crop during which severe damage was caused this peak to the crop. Almost mango trees were made sterile by feeding on cell sap of inflorescence. Most of the flowering bodies dropped down and sticky substances were associated with the crop. Therefore, Jassids are supposed to be rank first pest of mango tree. However, jassid diversity was relatively more associated with paddy crops. Probably due to mono and continuous culture of the crop from Sidhi District. Many species of Jassids attract towards the light hence, they may be controlled with light sources (Traps) for avoiding pesticidal use on various crop ecosystems. In future, more attention should be given on this important group of destructive pests since pesticides are less effective against Jassids because they take their food by deeping their beak into plant tissues.

Acknowledgement: The authors are thankful to Dr. A. K. Tiwari, Professor & Head, Department of Zoology, Govt. S. G. S. P. G. College, Sidhi (M.P) for their help and co-operation in this work.

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