Letters to the Editor

Research Institute, Dholi and Shri Harihar Prasad, Asstt. Plant Pathologist, Agricultural Research Institute, Dholi, for their valuable suggestion and help rendered during the investigations.

Agricultural Research Institute, Dholi, Muzaffarpur,
Sugarcane Research Institute, Pusa, Samastipur,
and
Department of Botany, Bihar University, Muzaffarpur,
June 29, 1974.

M. G. HAIDER
R. P. NATH
S. S. PRASAD

RECORD OF A SLUG, MARIAELLA DUSSUMIERI GRAY (ARIOPHANTIDAE: BASOMMATOPHORA), AS A NEW PEST OF CABBAGE FROM INDIA

Mariaella dussumieri Gray was found damaging the potted cabbage plants during May, 1974 at the Experimental Station of the Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Hessaraghatta, Bangalore. The slugs inflicted the damage by scraping the epidermis of the leaves and biting holes (Fig. 1).

Fig. 1. Feeding injury by slug.

Mostly the middle whorls of the cabbage head harboured the pest. Slugs were noticed on all the one hundred and fifty plants with an average number of 4 per plant. Apart from direct feeding damage, the pest lowers the market value of the heads by the presence of their excreta. Earlier, Perobrazhenskii (1963) found a grey slug, Agriolimax agrestis damaging cabbage at Buryatia Agri. Institute, U.S.S.R. This is the first record of a slug pest on cabbage in India.

Thanks are due to Dr. G. S. Randhawa, Director, Indian Institute of Horticultural Research, Bangalore, for the facilities and to the Director, Zoological Survey of India, Calcutta, for the identification of the pest.

Indian Institute of Horticultural Research,
255, Upper Palace Orchards,
Bangalore-6, July 9, 1974.

P. L. TANDON
K. KRISHNAIAH
V. G. PRASAD


A NOTE ON THE ANDALUSITE DEPOSIT OF BAGHISHOTI AREA, DISTRICT MIRzapur, UTTAR PRADESH

The area under study forms the easternmost part of the Hajawar formations of the Pre-Cambrian age lying to the south of the great Vindhyan sedimentary basin of the Son Valley, Uttar Pradesh. It lies on the boundary of Bihar and Uttar Pradesh between the Lats. 24° 20’ and 24° 25’ and Longs. 83° 25’ and 83° 30’, and falls under the Survey of India toposheet No. 63 P/7.

Andalusite occurs in the area as porphyroblasts and small crystals (see Fig. 1) in the phyllites and schists. The content of andalusite mineral in the phyllite and schists varies from 5 to 20% and appears to be concentrated on the southern and western margin of the Baghishoti granitic pluton. Crystals are well developed and are grey in colour, prismatic in form with square cross-section, average length is being 1 to 1.5 cm, but crystals as long as 10 to 15 cm are also not uncommon. Average specific gravity of andalusite (of five samples) is 3.05.

Fig. 1. Showing porphyroblasts of andalusite in the phyllites.

Andalusite bearing rocks occupy a considerable area in the Baghishoti area. During the present investigation only a part of the area has been examined. However, it has been noted that the percentage of the andalusite mineral in the rock appears to be appreciable. From the preliminary examination it appears that a good reserve of andalusite deposit exists. It is, therefore, suggested...