

### Results and Discussion

There was a significant reduction in the number of eggs laid and per cent egg hatch of the treated adult beetles as compared to control (Table I). This type of sterility was also reported by Masner (1968) in *Pyrrhocoris* and Riddford (1971) in the silkworm, *Hyalophora cecropia*.

There were no juvenile hormone effect symptoms like, supernumerary molt, prolonged larval instars, failure to pupate, failure to emerge from pupal stage, or formation of abnormal adults, in all the juvenile hormone treatments, except that the first, second and third instar grubs were smaller in size. There was a significant reduction in feeding by grubs on treated leaves as compared to those on untreated leaves (Table II). Bagley and Bauernfein (1972) working with Roeller and Romanuk compounds on citrus snow scale *Unaspis citri* and tobacco worm *Haltotthis virescens* and Slama (1973) with some coleoptera and Hymenopteran insects with juvenile hormone analogue, could not obtain the classical symptoms of juvenile hormone.

### Conclusion

The juvenile hormone analogue ZR 619-5 E reduced fecundity and per cent hatch of eggs in adults of *Epilachna vigintioctopunctata* Fb. However, in grubs no classical symptoms of juvenile hormone effects could be seen though there was a significant reduction in feeding.

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### RING ROT OF BRINJAL CAUSED BY *MYROTHECIUM RORIDUM* TODE EX FRIES FROM BANGALORE

DURING the months of August and September 1975, it was observed that several fruits of brinjal were affected by ring rot. The extent of damage was 1 to 2%. The disease was noticed at the last stage of the crop and it was more pronounced during last few harvests and was favoured by intermittent rains and sunshine.

The symptoms are evident as small to large conspicuous sharply defined circular to oval flattened lesions. The affected tissues are pale to black. The rot penetrates deep into the fruits. The most characteristic symptom of the disease is the presence of narrow concentric rings of alternating black spore masses and white mycelial mat (Fig. 1).



FIG. 1. Symptoms of ring rot on Atka Sheel fruits.

Under artificial inoculation the spores infect both young and mature fruits through wounds,

producing characteristic symptom of the disease after 5 days. The following brinjal varieties were found susceptible: Dingra's multiple purple, Pusa kranti, Arka sheel, Arka kusumakar. Ponnappa<sup>1</sup> working with this fungus reported its ability to infect seedlings of 21 economic hosts. This is the first report of *Myrothecium roridum* causing fruit rot of brinjal.

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#### NATIONAL CONFERENCE ON CRYSTALLOGRAPHY (1977)

A National Conference on Crystallography sponsored by the Indian National Committee, for the International Union of Crystallography is proposed to be held at the Department of Physics (Crystallography and Biophysics), University of Madras, from 17th to 21st January, 1977. The year 1977 happens to be the 25th Year of the Department which has been specialising in Crystallography and Biophysics and this programme is a part of the Silver Jubilee activities.

Abstract of papers to be presented at the Conference should reach the Organizing Committee on or before October 15, 1976.

Further particulars may be had from: Prof. R. Srinivasan, Chairman, National Conference on Crystallography, University of Madras, Guindy Campus, Madras 600 025.

#### INDIAN COUNCIL OF AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH, NEW DELHI-1

Indian Council of Agricultural Research, Krishi Bhavan, New Delhi-1, has evolved a scheme for the appointment of Emeritus Scientists in the field of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and allied sciences. Nominations are invited for the block year 1977-79. Retired scientists of established

reputation are requested to send 15 copies of their biodata and details of the project proposed in the prescribed proforma that can be obtained from Sri. N. Swaminathan, Additional Secretary, ICAR. The last date for receipt of the applications is 30th September 1976.

#### INDIAN METEOROLOGICAL SOCIETY, NEW DELHI

At a Seminar on Weather Modification held during February, 1976, the current state of knowledge on artificial rain making was reviewed. The Society recognised the need for well planned

intensive programme of experiments and made several recommendations in this connection. The details will be published in *Voyu Mandal*, Vol. 6, No. 1.

#### NEW EVIDENCE OF MAGNETIC POLE VARIATIONS

Scientists, including a team from the Australian National University in Canberra, are uncovering increasing evidence that the earth's magnetic poles have migrated dramatically in the past. The Australian National University's Research School of Earth Sciences' research team has developed

techniques which may allow them to reconstruct in detail the variations of the geomagnetic field in Australia over the past 30,000 years. The technique involves taking long, undisturbed oriented cores of sediment from the bottom of lakes and analysing their magnetic records (AIS).

#### INDIAN SOCIETY OF DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGISTS

Indian Society of Developmental Biologists is holding its Scientific Symposium on 2nd January 1977, at Bhubaneswar. Interested Developmental

Biologists please contact: Dr. Suresh C. Goel, Secretary-Treasurer, ISDB, Department of Zoology, Poona University, Poona 411 007,