

satellited and three pairs of chromosomes had secondary constrictions. Meiotic data fully corroborated the mitotic ones, i.e., at metaphase I fourteen bivalents ( $n = 14$ ) were seen among which the rod ones had higher frequency.

The above taxa are polybasic: *Vicia biensis*, *Crotalaria pumila* and *Teramnus labialis* show basic chromosome numbers  $x = 7$ ,  $x = 8$  and  $x = 14$  respectively. Chromosomes of *Crotalaria pumila* are almost symmetrical but those of the other two species are asymmetrical, particularly chromosomes of *Teramnus labialis* which are highly asymmetrical. In Papilionaceae, lower basic chromosome number is dominant. But *Teramnus labialis*, investigated hitherto, has a high basic chromosome number ( $x = 14$ ), which is uncommon in Papilionaceae, but common in Caesalpinaceae and Mimosaceae<sup>1-3</sup>. Voucher specimens are maintained in the Herbarium of the Department of Botany, Patna University, Patna.

So, *Teramnus labialis* is very interesting and deserves a thorough investigation, because it may help in establishing 'inter se' relationships, among the three families, viz., Papilionaceae, Caesalpinaceae and Mimosaceae.

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#### FRUIT ROT DISEASE OF *CANAVALIA ENSIFORMIS* DC.—A NEW RECORD

AN undescribed fruit rot disease of Sword Bean (*Canavalia ensiformis* DC.) was observed by the authors and the causal organism was identified as *Trichothecium roseum* (Pers.). The culture has been deposited at CMI, Mew, England, under the accession No. INI-226615.

The disease was marked as dark brown to black spots on the fruit, which later on got covered by light pink velvety mass of fungal hyphae. The decay was confined to the skin of the fruit in the early phase of infection which entered the deeper zone as well with the advancement of the disease. Pathogenicity test

was performed and found positive. Perusal of the literature revealed that it has not been reported on Sword Bean.

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#### NEW RECORDS OF PARASITES AND PREDATORS OF *NEPHOPTERYX EUGRAPHELLA* RAGONOT IN INDIA

*Nephoptyx eugraphella* Ragonot (Lep., Pyralidae) is the most serious insect pest of sapota (*Achras zapota* Linn.) in India. The larva joins the leaves with silken threads and feeds on the leaf-tissue, remaining hidden between the leaves or within the loose tunnel made up of excretal pellets. Unidentified hymenopterous larval-pupal parasites have been mentioned by Cherian and Ananthanarayanan<sup>1</sup>, and Gupta and Gangrade<sup>2</sup>. Spiders feeding on the larvae have been observed by Sandhu *et al.*<sup>3</sup>. Considering the importance of natural control an effort was made during 1976 to study the insect parasites and predators of *N. eugraphella*.

Three larval-pupal parasites, viz., *Eurytoma* sp. (Hym., Eurytomidae), *Xanthopimpla* sp. (Hym., Ichneumonidae) and *Cadurcia* sp. (Dip., Tachnidae) were identified from field-collected samples. During peak infestation parasitism was up to 35%. *Eurytoma* sp. was dominant over *Xanthopimpla* sp. and *Cadurcia* sp. Larvae and adults of two beetles namely *Calleida splendidula* (Fabr.) and *Parena nigrolineata* (Chd.) (Col., Carabidae) were the only insect predators observed. These parasites and predators appeared to be density-dependant and unable to keep the host populations in check. All these are first records from India.

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