Original Research Article

Studies on Life Fecundity Tables of *L. orbonalis* Guenee on Brinjal

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**ABSTRACT**

The life table of *Leucinodes orbonalis* was prepared from daily fecundity and survival of cohort, when larvae were reared on brinjal c.v. Shyamala at a temperature 26± 1°C. Results on the survival of different stages of *L. orbonalis* indicated 10% mortality in the egg stage and with 20% and 28% mortality in the larval and pupal stages, respectively. The longest duration of egg incubation was 5 days, while the larval and pupal periods were 18 days and 11 days, respectively. The number that survived from egg to adult emergence was 72 individuals. The net reproductive rate (Ro) was 136.35 with mean length generation (Tc) 38.05 days. The intrinsic rate of increase was 0.1294 females female⁻¹ day and population multiplied 2.4739 times in a week with generation time of 37.98 days on brinjal. The per cent contribution of eggs, larval, pupal and adults were 58.98, 37.65, 2.50 and 0.42, respectively at stable age distribution of *L.orbonalis* on brinjal. Life expectancy of *L. orbonalis* on brinjal for newly deposited eggs was 13.24 days. The mortality rate was comparatively high at the age of 35 to 40 days when the expectation of further life was reduced to only 1.80 days from 13.24 days in the beginning.

**Keywords**

*Leucinodes orbonalis*, Life table, Brinjal.

**Article Info**

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**Introduction**

Brinjal (*Solanum melongena*) shoot and fruit borer *Leucinodes orbonalis* Guene is the most destructive pest causing major constraints in the production as well as in the quality of the crop. This pest reported to cause as high as 20-89 per cent crop loss to brinjal (Raju et al., 2007). The crop productivity of brinjal crop has been substantially reduced as a result of boring and feeding on the shoot and fruit *Leucinodes orbonalis* is the most noxious and obiquitous pest of brinjal Naik et al., (2009).

Application of life table, rate of increase and stable age distribution are most as diverse as the insects. Such a life tables may be analyse to determine which stage, the life cycle of the insect contribute the most to the population trend. The study of life table of an insect provides the growth rate statistics which can be used as predictive basis of pest control. Since, brinjal cv Shyamala variety is grown as *kharif* crop in Telangana region and no detailed information regarding life tables at constant laboratory temperature is available, the present study are therefore, carried out.

**Materials and Methods**

The studies on the life-fecundity table of brinjal shoot and fruit borer was conducted under laboratory conditions at constant temperature of 26 ±1°C on brinjal fruits in Department of Entomology, College of
Agriculture, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad. To construct the life table, 10 pairs of adults were kept for egg lay in wooden cages. The sides of the cages were covered with muslin cloth. Tender leaves of brinjal were inserted in to a conical flask containing fresh water to keep leaves fresh and turgid. The brinjal leaves along with conical flask and fresh brinjal fruits were placed in to the cage for resting and oviposition of adults. Eggs laid on muslin cloth or on leaves or on fruits were used for this study. In order to construct the life-tables, 100 eggs were collected carefully with the help of wet camel hair brush and placed in ten plastic containers in a batch of 10 each. The eggs were glued on black card paper in one row to facilitate observations on hatching. Immediately after hatching the larvae were transferred individually on brinjal fruit and Fresh food was provided daily. An observation on hatching, larval development, formation of pupae, successful emergence of adults and fecundity were recorded daily. To determine, age-specific fecundity, total number of adults emerged on the same day was caged for oviposition. Number of eggs laid on subsequent days on the brinjal fruit and muslin cloth was recorded until death of the adults. The life-fecundity tables under laboratory conditions were constructed by using the column headings proposed by Birch (1948), elaborated by Howe (1953), Southwood (1978) and Atwal and Bains (1974).

Details of the column heads used for the construction of life tables of pests are

X: Age of the insect in days,

\( l_x \): Number surviving at the beginning of each interval, out of 100.

\( d_x \): Number dying during the age interval, out of 100.

\( 100 q_x \): Mortality rate at the age interval \( x \) and calculated by using formula.

\[
100 q_x = \frac{d_x}{l_x} \times 100
\]

\( e_x \): Expectation of life or mean life remaining for individuals of age \( x \).

\( e_x \): To obtain life expectation (\( e_x \)) two other parameters \( L_x \) and \( T_x \) were also computed as below.

\( L_x \): The number of individuals alive between ages \( x \) and \( x + 1 \) and calculated by the equation.

\[
L_x = l_x + \frac{(l_x + 1)}{2}
\]

\( T_x \): The total number of individual of \( x \) age units and beyond the age \( x \), and obtained by the equation.

\[
T_x = l_x + (l_x + 1) + (l_x + 2) + \ldots \ldots \ldots \ldots + l_w
\]

Where, \( l_w \): The last age interval.

Life-Table (For Female) and Age-Specific Fecundity Table
The table was constructed on the suggestions made by Birch (1948) and Southwood (1978). It consisted of following columns:
\( x \): Pivotal age of female in days.

\( l_x \): Number of females alive at the beginning of the age interval \( x \) (as fraction of initial population of one).

\( m_x \): Average number of female eggs laid per female in each age interval assuming 50:50 sex ratio and computed as:

\[
m_x = \frac{N_x}{2}
\]

Where, \( N_x \): Total natality per female offsprings in each age.

\( l_x \): Total number of births in each age interval.

This can multiply with column \( l_x \) and \( m_x \) together.

Besides \( m_x \) total number of female offsprings in each age interval \( (x) \), \( l_x \), \( m_x \) was also computed by multiplying the column \( l_x \) with \( m_x \).

**Population Growth Attributes**

Net reproductive rate \( (R_o) \) is the total number of female offspring’s produced per female during single generation

\[
R_o = \sum l_x m_x.
\]

Mean length of generation (or) approximate generation time, independent of ‘\( r_m \)’ or mean duration of generation

\[
T_c = \frac{\sum l_x m_x \times l_x}{R_o}
\]

Innate Capacity for increase

\[
(r_c) = \frac{\log R_o}{T}
\]

Where, \( e \): natural log \((i.e. 2.71828)\)

The above \( r_c \) was an approximate value of intrinsic rate of natural increase \( (r_m) \) and is slightly lower than \( r_m \) value for insects with overlapping generations as suggested by Laughlin (1965) and Southwood (1978).

IV. ‘\( r_m \)’ values (intrinsic rate of increase)

This approximate value \( (r_c) \) and other provisional values \( (r_m) \) were substituted in the following equation to obtain accurate value of intrinsic rate of increase \( (‘r_m’ \) as suggested by Atwal and Bains, 1974.

\[
\sum e^{-r_m} l_x m_x = 1
\]

Where, \( e \): natural log \((2.71828)\)

Two trial values of ‘\( r_m \)’ differing two points in second decimal place were substituted in the above equation. In each case \( e^{-r_m} \) values multiplied with \( l_x m_x \) values. These two trial values are selected such that until two values were found by trial and error, which lie immediately above and below ‘1’. The trial ‘\( r \)’ values on Y-axis and the summation value from the equation \( \sum e^{-r_m} l_x m_x \) on X-axis were plotted on graph. The point of trial ‘\( r_m \)’ values against summation was connected by a straight line. The point on straight line at which it was intercepted with the vertical line drawn from established value, ‘1’ from X-axis, considered as ‘\( r_m \)’ value. This value is substituted in the above equation to check whether the summation is ‘1’ or not. If it is not less than one then tried for another \( r_m \) value, then the same procedure was repeated, until ‘1’ was obtained. Finally, this value was considered as accurate ‘\( r_m \)’ value. From the ‘\( r_m \)’ value, the corrected generation time \( (T) \), finite rate of increase \( (\lambda) \) and weekly multiplication rate \( (WMR) \) were derived with the following formulae.
Corrected generation time (T) : \[ \frac{\log R_o}{r_m} \]

Finite rate of increase (\( \lambda \)) : \[ \text{anti} \log e \times \frac{r_m}{R_o} \]

Weekly multiplication rate (WMR): \( (e^{rm})^7 \)

Hypothetical F2 females : \( (R_o)^2 \)

Doubling time : \[ \frac{\log 2}{r_m} \]

**Stable-age Distribution**

The stable-age distribution of brinjal shoot and fruit borer was computed from the intrinsic rate of increase and life-tables, suggested by Birch (1948) and Atwal and Bains (1974).

From the number of individuals survived at age (x) i.e. lx of life-table, the value of Lx was worked out by using the formula.

\[ L_x = lx + \frac{(lx+1)}{2} \]

The value, Lx was multiplied with \( e^{-rm} (x+1) \) to get the column of Lx \( e^{-rm} (x+1) \). Then the birth rate (\( \beta \)) was obtained from dividing one by \( \sum Lx e^{-rm} (x+1) \) value. The stable-age distribution was obtained by multiplying Lx \( e^{-rm} (x+1) \) with \( \beta \) and converted into percentage.

**Results and Discussion**

Results on the survival of different stages of *L. orbonalis* (Table 1) indicated 10% mortality in the egg stage and with 20% and 32% mortality in the larval and pupal stages, respectively. The longest maximum duration of eggs incubation was 5 days. The larval and pupal periods were 18, 11 days, respectively. Similar results were reported by Singh and Singh (2009) where the data on survival of different stages of *L. orbonalis* on brinjal revealed that the incubation period of egg was 4 days and larva, pupal duration was 19, 13 days, respectively. According to Pramanik and Chatterjee (2012) reported that larval period and pupal period, was 16.2, 7.6 days, respectively. The number that survived from egg to adult emergence was 72 individuals (Table 1). Life fecundity tables were constructed to determine the survival of female (lx) and age specific fecundity (mx). The life fecundity data indicated that pre oviposition period ranged from 34\(^{th}\) to 35\(^{th}\) day of pivotal age (Table 2). Females deposited first batch of eggs on 36\(^{th}\) day and stopped 40\(^{th}\) day with lx values 0.72 and 0.40, respectively. The ‘lx ‘values decreased gradually after 37\(^{th}\) day of the pivotal age due to adult mortality. The maximum fecundity (96.05) in the life cycle was made by on the 38\(^{th}\) day of pivotal age. The net reproductive \( (R_o) \) was worked out as 136.35females female day\(^{-1}\). These results are more or less confirmation with Jethva and Vyas (2009) reported the net reproductive rate \( (R_o) \) was 160.96 females female day\(^{-1}\) on brinjal and Kumral *et al.*, (2007) reported the net reproductive rate \( (R_o) \) of olive leaf moth 129.8 females female \(^{-1}\) day\(^{-1}\). The intrinsic rate of increase \( (r_m) \) 0.1294 females female day\(^{-1}\) (figure 1) and population would be able to multiply 2.4739. Similar results reported by Jethva and Vyas (2009). Who reported that the intrinsic rate of natural increase in numbers \( (r_m) \) was 0.1305 females female\(^{-1}\) day\(^{-1}\) and the *L. orbonalis* population would be able to multiply 2.4931 times week\(^{-1}\)on brinjal.
Table 1: Survival of different developmental stages of shoot and fruit borer on brinjal

| No. of eggs | Number survived |   |   |
|-----------|-----------------|---|---|
|           | Egg stage 0-5 days | Larval stage 6-23 days | Pupal stage 24-34 days |
| 10        | 8               | 7             | 6             |
| 10        | 9               | 7             | 7             |
| 10        | 9               | 8             | 7             |
| 10        | 10              | 8             | 7             |
| 10        | 9               | 9             | 7             |
| 10        | 10              | 9             | 8             |
| 10        | 9               | 8             | 6             |
| 10        | 9               | 8             | 8             |
| 10        | 8               | 8             | 8             |
| 100       | 90              | 80            | 72            |
| Per cent mortality | 10 | 20 | 28 |

Table 2: Life-table (for female) and age specific fecundity of shoot and fruit borer on brinjal

| Pivotal age in days (x) | Survival of female at different age interval (lx) | Age schedule for female birth (mx) | (lxmx) | (x. lxmx) |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------|----------|
| 0-34                    | Immature stages                                   |                                    |        |          |
| 35                      | Pre oviposition                                   |                                    |        |          |
| 36                      | 0.72                                              | 12.55                             | 9.04   | 325.30   |
| 37                      | 0.72                                              | 31.08                             | 22.37  | 827.84   |
| 38                      | 0.70                                              | 96.05                             | 67.24  | 2555.00  |
| 39                      | 0.54                                              | 53.33                             | 28.80  | 1123.20  |
| 40                      | 0.40                                              | 22.25                             | 8.90   | 356.00   |
| 41                      | 0.32                                              | 0.00                              | 0.00   | 0.00     |
|                         | Ro = (∑lxmx) \[ \sum x \cdot lxmx \]             |                                    |        | 136.35   |
|                         | 136.35                                            |                                    |        | 5187.33  |
Table.3 Population growth attributes of shoot and fruit borer on brinjal

| Parameters                                      | calculated value                  |
|------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Net reproductive rate ($R_0$)                  | 136.35                            |
| Mean length of generation ($T_C$)              | 38.05 days                        |
| Innate capacity for increase in number ($r_c$) | 0.1292 females female$^{-1}$ day$^{-1}$ |
| Trial ' $r_m$'                                  | 0.12 and 0.13                     |
| Corrected $r_m$                                | 0.1294                            |
| Corrected generation time ($T$)                 | 37.98 days                        |
| Finite rate of increase number ($\lambda$)     | 1.1381 females female$^{-1}$ day$^{-1}$ |
| Weekly multiplication rate (WMR)               | 2.4739                            |

Fig.1 Determination of intrinsic rate of increase ($r_m$) of shoot and fruit borer
Table 4 Stable-age distribution of shoot and fruit borer on brinjal (rm= 0.1294)

| Pivotal age in (days) x | Lx   | e^{-rm(x+1)} | Lx* e^{-rm(x+1)} | Percent contribution |
|-------------------------|------|---------------|-------------------|----------------------|
| 0                       | 1.00 | 0.8786        | 0.8786            | 13.58                |
| 1                       | 1.00 | 0.7720        | 0.7720            | 11.93                |
| 2                       | 1.00 | 0.6783        | 0.6783            | 10.48                |
| 3                       | 0.99 | 0.5959        | 0.5900            | 9.12                 |
| 4                       | 0.94 | 0.5236        | 0.4922            | 7.61                 |
| 5                       | 0.88 | 0.4601        | 0.4049            | 6.26                 |
|                         |      |               |                   | **58.98**            |
| 6                       | 0.86 | 0.4042        | 0.3456            | 5.34                 |
| 7                       | 0.83 | 0.3552        | 0.2930            | 4.53                 |
| 8                       | 0.80 | 0.3120        | 0.2496            | 3.86                 |
| 9                       | 0.80 | 0.2742        | 0.2193            | 3.39                 |
| 10                      | 0.80 | 0.2409        | 0.1927            | 2.98                 |
| 11                      | 0.80 | 0.2117        | 0.1693            | 2.62                 |
| 12                      | 0.80 | 0.1860        | 0.1488            | 2.30                 |
|                         |      |               |                   | **37.65**            |
| 13                      | 0.80 | 0.1634        | 0.1307            | 2.02                 |
| 14                      | 0.80 | 0.1436        | 0.1148            | 1.77                 |
| 15                      | 0.80 | 0.1261        | 0.1009            | 1.56                 |
| 16                      | 0.80 | 0.1108        | 0.0887            | 1.37                 |
| 17                      | 0.80 | 0.0974        | 0.0779            | 1.20                 |
| 18                      | 0.80 | 0.0856        | 0.0684            | 1.06                 |
| 19                      | 0.80 | 0.0752        | 0.0601            | 0.93                 |
| 20                      | 0.80 | 0.0660        | 0.0528            | 0.82                 |
| 21                      | 0.80 | 0.0580        | 0.0464            | 0.72                 |
| 22                      | 0.80 | 0.0510        | 0.0408            | 0.63                 |
| 23                      | 0.80 | 0.0448        | 0.0358            | 0.55                 |
|                         |      |               |                   | **2.50**             |
| 24                      | 0.80 | 0.0394        | 0.0315            | 0.49                 |
| 25                      | 0.80 | 0.0346        | 0.0277            | 0.43                 |
| 26                      | 0.80 | 0.0304        | 0.0243            | 0.38                 |
| 27                      | 0.80 | 0.0267        | 0.0214            | 0.33                 |
| 28                      | 0.80 | 0.0235        | 0.0188            | 0.29                 |
| 29                      | 0.80 | 0.0206        | 0.0165            | 0.25                 |
| 30                      | 0.78 | 0.0181        | 0.0141            | 0.22                 |
| 31                      | 0.74 | 0.0159        | 0.0118            | 0.18                 |
| 32                      | 0.72 | 0.0140        | 0.0101            | 0.16                 |
| 33                      | 0.72 | 0.0123        | 0.0088            | 0.14                 |
| 34                      | 0.72 | 0.0108        | 0.0078            | 0.12                 |
|                         |      |               |                   | **0.42**             |
| 35                      | 0.72 | 0.0095        | 0.0068            | 0.11                 |
| 36                      | 0.72 | 0.0083        | 0.0060            | 0.09                 |
| 37                      | 0.71 | 0.0073        | 0.0052            | 0.08                 |
| 38                      | 0.62 | 0.0064        | 0.0040            | 0.06                 |
| 39                      | 0.47 | 0.0057        | 0.0027            | 0.04                 |
| 40                      | 0.36 | 0.0050        | 0.0018            | 0.03                 |
| 41                      | 0.16 | 0.0044        | 0.0007            | 0.01                 |
Table 5 Life-table for computing life expectancy of shoot and fruit borer reared on brinjal

| Pivotal age in days | Number surviving to the begging of age interval (lx) | Numbers dying during x (dx) | Mortality rate per hundred alive at begging of age interval dx × 100/lx | Alive between age x and x+1 Lx = (lx + (lx +1))/2 | Numbers of the individual’s days beyond x (Tx) | Expecting of further life e_i = Tx × 2/Lx |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| 0-5                 | 100                                           | 10.00                       | 10.00                                                              | 95.00                                         | 662.00                                         | 13.24                                       |
| 5-10                | 90                                            | 10.00                       | 11.11                                                              | 85.00                                         | 567.00                                         | 12.60                                       |
| 10-15               | 80                                            | 0.00                        | 0.00                                                               | 80.00                                         | 482.00                                         | 12.05                                       |
| 15-20               | 80                                            | 0.00                        | 0.00                                                               | 80.00                                         | 402.00                                         | 10.05                                       |
| 20-25               | 80                                            | 0.00                        | 0.00                                                               | 80.00                                         | 322.00                                         | 8.05                                        |
| 25-30               | 80                                            | 6.00                        | 7.50                                                               | 77.00                                         | 242.00                                         | 6.05                                        |
| 30-35               | 74                                            | 2.00                        | 2.70                                                               | 73.00                                         | 165.00                                         | 4.46                                        |
| 35-40               | 72                                            | 32.00                       | 44.44                                                              | 56.00                                         | 92.00                                          | 2.56                                        |
| 40-45               | 40                                            | 8.00                        | 20.00                                                              | 36.00                                         | 36.00                                          | 1.80                                        |

The difference in results might be due to nutritional quality of host plants and weather conditions which was provided as food to the pest during larval development (Gedia et al., 2007). The mean length time required for completing the life cycle to complete one generation was 37.98 days and finite rate of increase (λ) 1.1381 females female day⁻¹. The results are in conformity with those Jethva and Vyas (2009) reported mean length time of *L. orbonalis* 38.9 days and finite rate of increase (λ) 1.1394 females female day⁻¹ on brinjal. Gedia et al., (2008) who reported mean generation period of *S. litura* 39.75 days on cotton. Singh and Singh (2009) reported finite rate of increase (λ) 1.14 females female⁻¹ day⁻¹ of *L. orbonalis* on brinjal. The per cent contribution of various developmental stages for the stable-age distribution pattern (Table 3) was 58.98, 37.65, 2.5 and 0.42 per cent in egg, larvae, pupae and adult stages. Similar results were also reported by Acharya et al., (2007) with their studies on *Helicoverpa armigera* on cotton. The data revealed that the stable age distribution pattern were 43.7, 51.1, 4.7 and 0.4 per cent contribution in egg, larvae, pupae and adult stages. Singh and Singh (2009) reported 58.3, 39.8, 1.7 and 0.3 per cent contribution in egg, larvae, pupae and adult stages on brinjal. The computation of life expectancy table of *L. orbonalis* on brinjal c.v. Shyamala (Table 4). Life expectancy of *L. orbonalis* on brinjal for newly deposited eggs was 13.24 days. The mortality rate was comparatively high at the age of 35 to 40 days when the expectation of further life was reduced to only 1.80 days from 13.24 days in the beginning. The present findings were in conformity with the observations made by Dabhi and Patel (2007) on *H. armigera*, Singh and Singh (2009) and Jethva and Vyas (2009) on shoot and fruit borer on brinjal.

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