

# Diversity of Insect Visitors in Flowering Fennel and Coriander under Terai Region of West Bengal

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**Abstract**—An experiment was conducted at Instructional farm, Uttar Banga Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Pundibari, Coochbehar during rabi season 2016 for understanding the species diversity of insect visitors in flowering fennel and coriander. The experiment revealed that 26 species of insects from 13 families under 5 orders came and visited fennel flowers. Among them 10 species were from order Diptera, 8 from order Hymenoptera, 3 were each from Lepidoptera and Coleoptera and 2 were from Hemiptera. Dipterans were found to be the predominant visitors (47.92% of the total visitors) in fennel followed by Hymenopterans (32.09% of total visitors). In Coriander, 19 species of insects belonging to 10 families and 5 orders were observed throughout the experimental period. Among them, 8 species were from order Diptera, 5 were from Hymenoptera, 3 from Coleoptera, 2 from Lepidoptera and one Hemipteran were observed. Dipterans were found to be major group of visitor (62.30% of total visitors) in flowering coriander followed by Hymenopterans (21.63%). Shannon diversity index were calculated for both cases and in fennel it was 1.227 whereas in coriander it was 1.171. Margalef richness index was 2.335 in case of fennel and was 1.641 in case of coriander.