

**Biology of pear midge *Contarinia pyrivora* Riley  
(Dip: Cecidomyiidae) in Iran**

**R. KOLYAEI**

Plant Pests and Diseases Research Institute Tehran

**ABSTRACT**

Pear midge (*Contarinia pyrivora* Riley: Cecidomyiidae), is an insect that damage young pear fruits. It is the first record of this insect from Iran. This pest has one generation per year and overwinter as pupae at the depth of 5-8 cm in the soil. Under natural conditions, the adults appear in mid April when pears are flowering. Oviposition takes place on the flowers particularly on anthers. The eggs are whitish and very small in size, incubation period of which is about 3 days. The larvae feed on seeds of the young fruits. The infested fruits are longer than uninfested ones. No. of larvae counted in each fruit were 12-15.

**Key words:** Pear pests, Pear midge, Biology

**References**

- ALFORD, D. V., 1984. A Color Atlas of Fruit Pests Their Recognition Biology and Control. Published by Wolf Publishing Ltd. England, pp 72-73.
- BALACHIWSKY, A and L, MENSIL, 1935. Les Insectes Nuisibles aux Plantes Cultivees, Ouvrage honore D'un souscription du Minstere del Agriculture, Paris, pp 259-263.
- DONG QUINFUU. NEMENG. FANXUEG, 1997. Study on the biology characters of *Contarinia pyrivora* Riley and its control R. A. E. Vol. 8: 85
- FOX, W. G., 2001. Horticultural Pests: Detection and Control. pp 190-191. Biotech books. New Delhi, India.
- FURT, G., 1985. Rational control in pear orchards in savey, R. A. E. series, A. Vol. 73, No. 4.

- GEOFFRION, R., 1979. The Hoplocampa of pear trees and the Cecidomyiid of developing pear fruits. R. A. E. Series. A. Vol. 67: 7.
- RICHARDS, O. W. and R. G. DAVIDS, 1994. General Text Book of Entomology. Vol 2. Classification and biology, pp 971-997.
- SALAVATIAN, M., 1996. Plant Quarantine In Iran. Agricultural Education Publishing, 127 p.
- VERNON. S. M and C. C., RICHARDS, 2000. Manual of Fruit Insects. Biotech Books. New Delhi, India, pp 225-226.
- WILSON, G., FOX. Horticultural pests: Detection and control. Biotech books. New Delhi, 190-191 pp.

---

**Address of the authors:** Eng. R. Kolyaee, Plant Pests and diseases Research Institute, P.O. Box 1454, Tehran-19395, Iran