

Investigation on the downward migration of hibernating Sunn Pest individuals from the altitudes to the cereal fields in Varamin

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ABSTRACT

This research work has been carried out during 12 consecutive years in Varamin region of IRAN. The results are as follow:

- 1- There have been one migration per season during five years, two migrations during five years and three migrations during two years.
- 2- the earliest downward migration started 8th of March, while the latest one was observed 20th of April.
- 3- The average of daily mean temperatures in the plain of Varamin at the starting days of the migrations are as follow:
 - First flight: 13.60°C (average of twelve years)
 - Second flight: 13.5°C (average of five years)
 - Third flight : 14.3°C (average of two years)
- 4- There has not been found any connection between accumulation of degree-days (DD) and the onset of Sunn Pest return flights. Furthermore, sudden incidence of high temperatures do not usually induce return flight of the insect, unless the 3-5 preceding days undergo a more or less gradual increase of ambient temperature. This phenomenon has been found more conspicuous during the first flight.

Key words: Return flight of sunnpest-Hibernation

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