ABSTRACT

Master Thesis

SOME BIO-ECOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS ON ASYMMETRASCA DECEDENS AND EMPOASCA DECIPIENS (HOMOPTERA: CICADELLIDAE)

Bahar ÇOBAN

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This study was conducted in cotton, maize, and wheat fields, and in peach, plum, citrus and quince plantations placed in the Adnan Menderes University Faculty of Agriculture. Cicadellids were sampled by using sticky traps and sweeping net.

As a result, it was determined that *A. decedens* and *E. decipiens* overwintered in adult female stage in Aydın. So, it is supposed that these female adults have already mated before overwintering. That was the reason that spring host plants were important for the population development. The first generation has occured on wheat, plum, peach, and apricot. Second and thirth generations have occured on summer crop plants. The last fourth generations occured on citrus and quince in autmn.

In general, A. decedens and E. decipiens were able to feed on many kind of plants from early spring to late fall. They constituted higher populations on cotton than the other hosts. So, it was important that cotton fields contributed to the late populations. On the other hand, since cicadellids were active from early spring to late fall and were able to feed on many hosts and additionally having high breeding potential, their populations could reach to high levels in a short periot.

Key words

Asymmetrasca decedens, Empoasca decipiens, hosts, population, sampling.