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**First host record of false chinch bug, *Nysius inconspicuus* (Hemiptera: Lygaeidae) on sesame in Anand (Gujarat, India)*****N. M. Patel, N. B. Patel and Raghunandan, B. L.****AICRP on Biological Control of Crop Pests, Anand Agricultural University, Anand, Gujarat, 388110 India****Corresponding author: nehampatel25@gmail.com***

Sesame [*Sesamum indicum* L.] also known as Til, Gingely, Ajonjoli, Simsim and Benniseed and belongs to family Pedaliaceae. Sesame is the “Queen of oil seeds”. A general survey was carried out during summer season of the year 2022 to document insect pests and their natural enemies under the aegis of All India Coordinated Research Project (AICRP) on Biological Control of Crop Pests. During the survey, a hemipteran pest was found infesting sesame crop in the field located in Agronomy (Lat. 22.53955 & Long.72.98093) and Medicinal Research Farm (Lat. 22.53659 & Long.72.98227), Anand Agricultural University, Anand, Gujarat. The bugs were collected in a plastic container (5.5 × 4.5 cm) and brought to the laboratory. The collected bugs were observed using Olympus SZX 10 binocular microscope. The bugs were identified as *Nysius inconspicuus* (Hemiptera: Lygaeidae). Moreover, this is the first instance of false chinch bug infesting sesame crop in

Anand (Gujarat, India). The pest was found sucking the sap from the foliage and flower buds (Fig. 1).

Citing earlier reports of this pest in India, Distant (1903) described false chinch bug (FCB), *N. inconspicuus* (Hemiptera: Lygaeidae) from BhorGhat and later reported the same from Mysore. A severe infestation of sesame by *N. inconspicuus* Distant was reported from Tindivanam in the Indian State of Tamil Nadu (Thangavelu *et al.*, 1989). In Gujarat, *N. inconspicuus* and *Nysius ericae* (Schilling) (Lygaeidae), a hemipteran pest was found feeding on pearl millet and muskmelon for the first time (Gamit *et al.*, 2022; Zala *et al.*, 2013). *Nysius inconspicuus* is a highly polyphagous and occasional pest. Greyish brown small sized bug has transparent wings (Fig. 2). They suck the sap from the foliage and flower buds (Milliken, 1918).



**Fig. 1.** False ching bug, *Nysius inconspicuus* infesting sesame



**Fig. 2.** Adult of *Nysius inconspicuus*

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