

Incidence of *Papilio demoleus* Linnaeus (Lepidoptera: Papilionidae) in Kinnow***Rajendra Nagar^{1*}, Balbir Singh² and Dayanand¹***Krishi Vigyan Kendra (SKRAU), Abusar, Jhunjhunu-333001 (Rajasthan) India¹Krishi Vigyan Kendra (SKRAU), Chandgothi, Churu-331305 (Rajasthan) India²****Corresponding author: rajendranagar86@gmail.com***

Citrus fruits are grown all over the world. Early records indicate that citrus fruits such as, orange (*Citrus reliculata* Blanco), limes (*Citrus aurantifolia* (Swingle) and lemons (*Citrus limon* (L. Burm.) were being cultivated in South China, Malaya and Sub-Himalayan parts of Assam. From there, they spread to the tropical and sub-tropical parts of the world. The third most important fruit crop of India after mango and banana is citrus fruits. Citrus trees are attacked by a wide variety of pests. 823 species of insects damaging citrus in various countries were reported, 175 of them occurred in India (Ebeling, 1959). The reported pest is a serious citrus pest in India (Pathak & Rizvi, 2002). Citrus tree in India is attacked by a very large number of insects and mites causing appreciable loss in yield. Among all the insect pests, lemon butterfly (*P. demoleus* L.) is an important pest of citrus causing severe damage at sapling (nursery) and young stage in the orchard. Looking at the apparent importance of the pest and the little information available on seasonal abundance of lemon butterfly. Studies were carried out on

newly established kinnow orchard at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Chandgothi-Churu, Rajasthan (Latitude = 28.57737 and Longitude = 75.52049). The *P. demoleus* pest population was recorded at weekly interval on ten randomly selected new grown kinnow plants. Lemon butterfly attacks kinnow at the vegetative stage defoliating the whole plant. The appearance of the *P. demoleus* on kinnow plant were noticed on the first week (0.33 /10plant). The caterpillar population started to decline during the latter fortnight (5.0 /10 plants) which continued up to first week of next month (0.66/10 plants) and thereafter completely disappeared.

References

- Ebeling, W. 1959. Subtropical fruit pests. University of California Press. p: 436.
- Pathak, K.N. and Rizvi, P.Q. 2002. Age specific life table of *Papilio demoleus* on different hosts. *Annals of Plant Protection Sciences*. 10: 375-376.



Fig. 1 Damage of *Papilio demoleus* (Linnaeus) in Kinnow

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