

ABSTRACT

Mites are of great economic importance as pests of crops which damage and do a great deal of economic losses. On the other hand the predatory mites are beneficial ones. They act as bio-control agents of phytophagous mites/ small soft bodied insects like aphids, thrips, scale insects and their eggs. Before the use of predatory mites as bio-control agents the species present in a region must be known.

Keeping this in view the present studies reviewed efforts made to explore the predatory mites of rice growing areas of Punjab. For this purpose different areas were selected at random and collection of mites was made from leaves twigs, rice husk, rice straw and damaged grains. The collection from these material was made by sieve collection and Berlese funnel extraction method. As a result of this endeavour 13 species belonging to 2 genera of the family Cheyletidae, 3 genera of the family Cunaxidae, 4 genera of family Phytoseiidae and 1 genus of the family Raphignathidae were collected. These are enlisted as under.

I. FAMILY CHEYLETIDAE LEACH.

- A. Genus *Cheyletus* Latreilla.
 - i. *Cheyletus scopa* Baloch
 - ii. *Cheyletus zaini* n.sp

- B. Genus *Hemicheyletia* Volgin
 - iii. *Hemicheyletia kausari* n.sp

II. FAMILY CUNAXIDAE THOR

- C. Genus *Coleoseirus* Berlese
 - iv. *Coleoseirus bapto*s Chaudhri

- D. Genus *Neocunaxoides* Smiley
 - v. *Neocunaxoides granai* n.sp

- E. Genus *Scutascirus* Den Heyer
vi. *Scutascirus pigrus* Chaudhri

III. FAMILY PHYTOSEIIDAE BERLESE

- F. Genus *Amblydromella* Muma
vii. *Amblydromella glatus* n.sp
viii. *Amblydromella zafari* (Chaudhri)

- G. Genus *Euseius* Wainstein
ix. *Euseius johlensis* n.sp
x. *Euseius novius* n.sp

- H. Genus *Neoseiulus* Hughes
xi. *Neoseiulus longispinosus* (Evans)

- I. Genus *Phytoseius* Ribaga
xii. *Phytoseius (Pennaseius) curvatus* chaudhri

IV. FAMILY RAPHIGNATHIDAE KRAMER

- J. Genus *Raphignathus* Duges
xiii. *Raphignathus kamokiensis* n.sp

These species have been described and illustrated.