Short Communications

A New Record of *Amblyseius* Sp. (*Acarina: Phytoseiidae*) As a Predator of *Tetranychus Neocaledonicus* Andre on Cotton (*Gossypium Hirsutum* L.) In Gujarat

R. K. Bharodia and G. M. Talati

Department of Entomology, Gujarat Agricultural University, College of Agriculture, Junagadh

The phytophagous mite, *Tetranychus neocaledonicus* Andre has been recorded as a serious pest of cotton in Gujarat (Bharodia, 1974). During field survey for its natural enemies, the adult stage of a predatory mite was found feeding voraciously on the adults of the phytophagous mite, *Tetranychus neocaledonicus* Andre. The predatory mite was identified as *Amblyseius* sp. (Acarina: Phytoseiidae). Smith and Newsom (1964) have reported *Amblyseius fallacis* (Garman) as a predatory mite on tetranychid mite in Louisiana, U.S.A.

In laboratory studies, each full grown predatory mite, *Amblyseius* sp. was capable of eating as many as 6 adults of phytophagous mite in a day. This is the first record of *Amblyseius* sp. as a predator of *Tetranychus neocaledonicus* Andre infesting cotton in Gujarat.

The authors are grateful to Dr. V. Prasad, Associate Professor of Entomology (Taxonomy), Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana for help in identifying the predator.

(Received on May 20, 1975)

REFERENCE

Bharodia R. K. 1974. Some studies on bionomics and control of a phytophagous mite of deviraj (170-Co2 cotton in Junagadh area (*Tetranychus-neocaledonicus* Andre). M.Sc. (Agri.) thesis. Gujarat Agricultural University, Junagadh.

Smith J. C. and L. D. Newsom. 1964. Laboratory evaluation of *Amblyseius fallacis* as a predator of Tetranychid mites, *J. Econ. Ent.*, **63:** 1876-78.