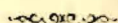
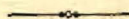


Some New Insects and Mites on Areca Palm in Mysore-III



M. PUTTARUDRIAH & G. P. CHANNA BASAVANNA

Division of Entomology, Department of
Agriculture, Bangalore-1.



The authors in their previous two lists (1953 & 1956) have given a number of insects and mites some of which have been noted as sporadic pests in certain limited localities in the State. It is quite possible that some of these are potential pests which may become serious when conditions favour them. So it may be pointed out that it is necessary to keep a critical watch over these and other insects and mites on the areca palm with a view to find out the factors responsible for their present status and to adopt suitable measures to control them if they tend to become pests.

During January 1957, it was noted that an entire bunch of ripe arecanuts in a garden at Sirsi (Karwar District) was heavily infested with the mealybug, *Icerya aegyptiaca* (Dougl), the stalks and the basal regions of the fruits completely covered by the bugs in various stages of development. Only a portion of the bunch is shown in the accompanying photograph. A few beetles and grubs of the predatory ladybird, *Rodolia* sp., were also noticed amidst the mealybugs.

This bug is very widely distributed in India and has been reported on a large number of different varieties of plants (Rao, 1950), the most common ones here being Jak and different varieties of croton.



A portion of areca bunch showing infestation by *Icerya aegyptiaca* (Dougl)

In our last note (1956), grubs of a dark brown cockchafer beetle were reported to damage the roots of areca palms in Sagar and Thirthahalli areas (Shimoga District). The insect has since been identified as *Leucopholis lepid-phora* Blanch. (Melolonthidae). The exact role of this cockchafer beetle is not known. However, it may be of interest to know that Nirula, (1955) has recorded a cockchafer grub, *Leucopholis coneophona* (Burm) (Melolonthidae) as a new pest of coconut palm in certain areas of Kerala State. Some of the symptoms reported to be caused by the cockchafer on coconut palms are yellowing of the leaves, stunted growth in young palms and premature fall of nuts

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