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VARIETAL RESISTANCE OF SOME SUGARCANE CULTIVARS TO THE ATTACK OF CHILO INFUSCATELLUS SNELL.

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ABSTRACT

The sugarcane cultivars viz; BL-4, COL-54, CO-975, and CO-1148 were studied for their resistance to the attack of Chilo infuscatellus Snell. In the R.C.B. Design, var. BL-4 was found to the most resistant to the attack of the pest. The characteristics of the sugarcane cultivars viz: more leaf area, cane hardness, fibre contents of the leaves and cane, leaf P and K contents, less pH of leaf and cane imparted resistance in the cultivars to the attack of the crop pest. While more nitrogen and moisture contents of leaf and cane, less cane P and K contents to the attack of the pest. The growth rate did not show any significant effect to the attack of the pest.

INTRODUCTION

Sugarcane, originally a crop of Indo-Pakistan sub-continet (1) is now grown all over the world. Sugar provides the cheapest energy as compared to other food materials (2).

In Pakistan, sugarcane crop is grown over an area of about 0.82 Million hectares with annual production of 31.23 Million Tons of cane giving an average cane yield of 38.1 Tons per hectares (6). Among a variety of factors contributing to low yield of sugarcane crop in the country, insect pests are of significant