

STRUCTURE, DYNAMICS, AND ABUNDANCE OF BEETLE SPECIES FROM A SUNFLOWER CROP FROM THE WESTERN AREA OF ROMANIA

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Abstract

The observations were made in the western part of Romania in the town of Aldea, Arad County, in a sunflower crop. For these observations, were used 12 pitfall traps ground traps. These were placed in the culture in two rows of six per row from the beginning of the plants' emergence until harvesting, harvesting at intervals of about 2 weeks throughout the year 2022 on the following calendar dates: 15.05, 29.05, 12.06, 26.06, 24.07, 7.08, 21.08, 4.09, and 18.09. Carabid species were retained from the collected material. Two variants were used: Variant 1 is represented by an ecological sunflower culture where no chemical treatment was done to combat pathogens and pests and Variant 2, represented by a sunflower crop cultivated in a conventional system where chemical treatments were applied both to the seed and to the crop to combat pathogens and pests. In general, a greater diversity and an important number of carabids are found in the sunflower culture cultivated in an ecological system (variant 1).

Key words: carabids, sunflower, crop, traps