

## PEST RISK ANALYSIS FOR SEEDS

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### Abstract

It has been estimated that the direct and indirect losses sustained every year in India in the sphere of staple food commodities before and after harvest on account of the destructive activities of varieties of insects alone is in thousands of crores and a fair proportion of this loss has been attributed to the havoc played by that special group of insects that infest food grains and other related products in storage. Many physical and biological methods for controlling such insects have been studied. The bulk of agrochemicals used as pesticides contaminate the environment, leaves toxic residue on the soil and in plants. Here, an attempt has been made to establish the relation between insect population and level of infestation which will be a great help to treat the grains infested with different pests. The experimental results showed that the viability of seeds could be maintained against the presence of insects up to 8 pairs and germination is above IMSCS level for wheat and sorghum. The radiated seeds have more resistance to insect damage as compared to seeds without radiation.

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