THE INDIAN RING DOVE (Streptopelia decaocta) AS VECTOR AND AGRICULTURAL PEST

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ABSTRACT: Dove constitute the bird family- Columbidae, within the order- Columbiformes, which include some 300 species. Common dove seen in arid zone of Rajasthan are Indian ring dove (Streptopelia decaocta), red-turtle dove(Streptopelia tranquebarica tranquebarica) and little brown dove(Stigmatopelia senegalensis). The dove universally symbolizes innocence, gentleness, faith, marinal affection, peace and constancy. The dove is the only bird that is mentioned about fifty times in the Bible. Visual observation and questionnaires indicate that in large variety of crops including Bajra, Wheat, Ground nut, Pulses, Mung, Moth, Rye were attacked at sowing, planting, seedling and harvesting stages of growth by the doves. They can cause substantial damage to agricultural crops in economy of farmer. These doves carry pathogens of diseases like armithosis, salmonellosis, cryptococcosis etc.

1. INTRODUCTION

Indian Ring Dove (Streptopelia decaocto) is very common bird in arid zone of Rajasthan. It is about 32cm (12.05 inch) in length, 138 gram in weight. Pale grey and brown in colour. The male dove would have a distinctively developed claw behind its limb where as the female will not have it. The size of the male dove is slightly larger then the female. They breed throughout its range, practically all year chiefly May to September, Two eggs are laid regularly at intervals of between 6-8 weeks, eggs are pure white and smooth textured. They build flimsy bottomed nest. Both sexes share a nest building and incubation. They are primarily granivorous feeders, feeds on seeds which are visible or readily accessible in light ground cover. Dove are attracted to agricultural crops particularly cereal grains (Indian corn, bread wheat, common sorghum, millets, rye, barley and common oats) when agricultural foods are available that comprises a large part of the diet. The extent of bird damage, varies between fields and at different localities depending upon several factors. The risk of catching a disease from human is far greater then it is to catch one from a bird (dove or other wise)

2. STUDY AREA

The Sardarshahar, tehsil of Churu district in Rajasthan is selected for the study. It is situated 250 km from Jaipur via Sikar, Ratangarh and 47km from Ratangarh and 137km from Bikaner. The rainfall is scanty and erratic. The average rain fall is about 420mm, month of July and August has got maximum rainy days. In summer maximum temperature may reach up to 49% and in winter the temperature may fall as 0.2%. The humidity is generally about 60% but in summer season it decreases below 30% due to dryness in environment. Rabi crop is mustard and wheat, kharif crop is Bajara and Moth.

3. METERODS

The pest status and dove as a vector was determined from questionnaires to farmers and villagers. The questions asked were: can you identify the dove? (local name was used), Is it a major pest on your farm? What crops does is damage? Do they transmit any kind of disease? Have you ever controlled it and with what methods and what measure of success? Questionnaire responses on Indian ring dove damage to crop plants is mentioned in table (1.1) The mode of damage was also determined from visual observation of damaged crops in the field. Cultivated crop fields were chosen randomly. Observations were taken twice or thrice a week, at regular intervals during morning and afternoon. The number of bird species recorded are in table (1.2)

4. RESULTS

Seventy six percent of the questionnaires sent were completed and returned. Preliminary results compiled from answers to the questionnaires indicated that warriety crops including typhoides), millett Pennischum wheati Triticam aestivum), mung (Vigna radiata), moth (Vigna aconitifolia), mustard (Brassica campristriace), jawar (Sorghum vulgur), ground nut (Apios Americana) were attacked at various stages of growth planting, seedling and barvesting. The extent of damage depends on the population of doves in the crop land. But their population is fast declining in previous last two decades. This is due to extensive use of pesticides, habitat destruction, hunting and contamination of their food and water. People are not aware of any disease of dove. There is no medical record, evidence to show that dove spread diseases.

Table 1.1 Questionnaire responses on Indian ring dove damage to crop plants.

Name of crop No. of respondents No. of respondents % respondent Time of damage

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Journal of the Audio Engineering Society Audio Engineering Society, 2008 Directory of members published as pt 2 of Journal of Research of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, 1999 Weak Edwin Black, 2012-04-30 War Against the Weak is the gripping chronicle documenting how American corporate philanthropies launched a national campaign of ethnic cleansing in the United States helped found and fund the Nazi eugenics of Hitler and Mengele and then created the modern movement of human genetics Some 60 000 Americans were sterilized under laws in 27 states This expanded edition includes two new essays on state genocide Middle Grades Research Journal Toni M. Williams, 2022-12-01 The Middle Grades Research Journal MGRJ is a peer refereed journal that publishes original empirical and theoretical studies focused on middle grades education All studies must include substantial linkage to the literature base in middle grades education young adolescent development and or teaching and learning environments suitable to students during the middle grade years Studies using a sample of students or teachers from the middle grades but with no linkage to middle grades literature are unlikely to be acceptable for publication Considering that significant research in the middle grades may be approached in a variety of ways MGRI publishes research studies employing a range of paradigms and methodologies including but not limited to quantitative qualitative and mixed methodologies historical research case studies single subject designs and studies employing large scale data bases Paper Trade Journal Computers at Risk National Research Council, Division on Engineering and Physical Sciences, Computer Science ,1928 and Telecommunications Board, Commission on Physical Sciences, Mathematics, and Applications, System Security Study Committee, 1990-02-01 Computers at Risk presents a comprehensive agenda for developing nationwide policies and practices for computer security Specific recommendations are provided for industry and for government agencies engaged in computer security activities. The volume also outlines problems and opportunities in computer security research recommends ways to improve the research infrastructure and suggests topics for investigators. The book explores the diversity of the field the need to engineer countermeasures based on speculation of what experts think computer attackers may do next why the technology community has failed to respond to the need for enhanced security systems how innovators could be encouraged to bring more options to the marketplace and balancing the importance of security against the right of privacy **River Basin** Management Canadian Water Resources Association, Grand River Conservation Authority, 1983 Proceedings of River Basin Management Canadian Experiences a national symposium held in Kitchener Ontario October 4 7 1981 Focuses on strategic issues associated with river basin management in Canada Covers management problems alternative solutions implementing selected plans and monitoring implemented activities Papers on Appeal from Order, Adlai Stevenson and the **World** John Bartlow Martin, 1977 Unified River Basin Management, Stage II David J. Allee, Leonard B. Dworsky, Ronald M. North, 1982 Parliamentary Papers Queensland. Parliament. Legislative Assembly, 1983 Guide to the National

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