J. Env. Bio-Sci., 2015: Vol. 29 (1):157-159 ISSN 0973-6913 (Print), ISSN 0976-3384 (On Line)

BIOLOGICAL STUDIES OF STOMOPTERYX SUBSECIVELLA ZELLER (LEPIDOPTERA: GELECHIIDAE)

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Received: 04-04-2015 **Accepted:** 28-04-2015

Soybean is relatively a new name in the list of economically important cultivated crop in India and its large scales cultivation is only for four decades old. Biology was studied in laboratory at prevailing room temperature at 24^{0}C -25^{0}C during August and 32^{0}C -33^{0}C during April, while relative humidity was 83%-84% and 32%-33% respectively. The freshly laid egg was glistening white, and measured 0.35 mm in length. There were four larval instars, in each instars size and colour differed. Adult *Stomopteryx subsecivella* Zeller (general colouration dark brown) have the fore wing darken than hind wing and had a white speck on the coastal margin towards the distal end. During the present investigation female moth was observed to be larger in size (10.2mm, wing span) than the male (9.2 mm, wing span). Moths were observed mating during morning hours between 9 and 10:30A.M, while oviposition during dusk and dark. The present research reveals that female laid 189 eggs, which may vary under the different ecological conditions and state of the host plant.