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Effect of plant populations on the incidence of bean stem maggot (*Ophiomyia* spp.) in common bean intercropped with maize

Peter K.H., Swella G.B., Mushobozy D.M.K.:

Plant Protect. Sci., 45 (2009): 149-155

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Effects of three intercrop combinations and plant populations on bean stem maggot *Ophiomyia phaseoli*; *O. spencerella* and *O. centrosematis* was observed; with the latter being reported in Morogoro for the first time. The infestation was higher in the pure stands of beans than in the intercrops and decreased gradually down to two-thirds maize. The incidence of *Ophiomyia* spp. decreased with increasing plant populations. Low counts of larvae and pupae were recorded in intercrops. Stem damage was higher in pure bean plots, which also had higher larvae and pupae counts. The intercrop combinations gave a yield advantage at all plant populations except at population P_3 for one – third maize two thirds bean mixture. The highest yield advantage was obtained at P_2 for two thirds maize – one third beans treatment suggesting it to be the optimum combination for the two crops. It is

concluded that a combination of BMM (one third bean-two thirds maize) at plant population P_2 may be considered as one of the *Ophiomyia* spp. management strategy in common bean.

Keywords:

Ophiomyia; pests; species; damage; yield advantage

[[fulltext](#)]

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