SUMMARY

Influence of insect pollination in selected cucurbitaceous crops (muskmelon, cucumber, bittergourd, ashgourd and pumpkin) was evaluated from May 2002-October 2005.

Regular visitors found on these crops were *Halictus timidus*, *Halictus taprobanae*, *ceratina heiroglyphica*, *Trigona iridipennis* and *Apis cerana*.

Complimentary visitors are *Amegilla parhypse*, *Apis dorsata*, *Apis florea*, *Braunsapis picitarsis*, *Ceratina smaragdula*, *Xylocopa tenuiscapa*, *Xylocopa aestuans*, *Cephonodes picus*, *Macroglossum troglodytus*, *Aulacophora lewisi* and *Aulacophora foveicollis*.

Highest pollination was taken place in the middle diurnal phase of middle seasonal phase.

Pollination was found highest at the time of higher number of flower production, larger flower size and higher pollen production.
Increased Insect pollination resulted in increased fruit set in all crops under study.

Insufficient pollination resulted in malformed fruits. More normal optimum sized fruits were produced from the flowers with higher pollination rate.

Underlying these changes there were increase in weight of fruits, number of seeds and viability of seeds with increase in pollination.