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Quantitative Assessment of Anthophilous Insects Associated with Medicinally Important Weed Plants of Genus *Cirsium*

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Abstract: The act of pollination is the most significant plant phenomenon that allows for sexual reproduction. Medicinal plants are particularly useful and insects play a large part in the pollination process. It is therefore essential to analyse insect pollinators associated with medicinally important plants. The species of genus *Cirsium* is a weed plant with some very important medicinal properties. This study aimed to document updated information about the quantitative bio-spectrum of insect pollinators associated with the three species of genus *Cirsium* (C. *arvense*, *C. verutum* and *C. vulgare*). These plants were visited by 41 species of insects belonging to four orders i.e. Lepidoptera, Hymenoptera, Diptera and Coleoptera. In terms of total number of species, *Apis cerana* showed maximum abundance, whereas *Eurema brigitta rubella* showed minimum abundance. The diversity of insect visitors was higher in the morning session as compared to afternoon session.

Keywords**:** *Cirsium*, Insects, Plants, Pollinator, Species