

OCCURRENCE OF PENTATOMOID BUG ON *JATROPHA NANA* DALZ.

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The genus *Jatropha* (Family-Euphorbiaceae) is morphologically diverse in nature and includes several species distributed in the tropical regions of America, Africa and Asia. This genus has attracted researchers in recent years due to its rich source of hydrocarbons and seed oil contents that vary from 27 to 48 %. Some beautiful species like *Jatropha multifida*, *Jatropha podagrica* and *Jatropha integrifolia* are grown in the gardens or green houses for its ornamental value. Other species like *Jatropha gossypifolia*, *Jatropha glandulifera* and *Jatropha curcas* are found in wild state or are cultivated on bunds to protect crop from bovine animals. Some of these aspects have discussed by several authors

Poona by Dalzell and others; under distribution it was stated 'apparently endemic in Deccan' as per Cooke, (1958). *J. nana* is found today, in the form of sparse patches, in Pachgaon Parvati hills and Vetar hill near Pune (Mahabale, 1987; Joshi, 1992). It is apparently endemic in the state of Maharashtra (Sharma and Kulkarni, 1980; Mahabale, 1987). It is in fact treated as endangered plant and urgently needs to be conserved (Tetali *et al.*, 2000; Mishra and Singh, 2001). This indicates that *J. nana* is both endemic and endangered plant. There is no previous record of any type of insect damage/insects feeding on this particular plant so far.

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