

Abstract

Surveys were conducted to determine the species composition of stemborers and their natural enemies in maize and sorghum in 1999 and 2000 in eastern, northern, southern and western Ethiopia. The six species of stemborers found attacking maize and sorghum were *Chilo partellus* (Swinhoe) (Lepidoptera: Crambidae), *Busseola fusca* Fuller, *Sesamia calamistis* Hampson (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae), *S. nonagrioides botanephaga* Tarns & Bowden (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae), *Rhynchaenus niger* (Horn) (Coleoptera: Rhynchophoridae) and *Pissodes dubius* (Ström) (Coleoptera: Rhynchophoridae). Twenty species of primary parasitoids of eggs, larvae and pupae of *Ch. partellus*, *B. fusca* and *S. calamistis* were recorded. Other natural enemies, including predators, fungi and nematodes, were also found. *Cotesia flavipes* Cameron (Hymenoptera: Braconidae) was the dominant and the most widely distributed parasitoid of stemborers in Ethiopia, and was reared from field-collected *Ch. partellus*, *B. fusca* and *S. calamistis*.