Study of Biological Control of Russian Knapweed (*Acroptilon repens* L.) by Flies Head (*Urophora xanthippe*) Under Greenhouse and Field Conditions

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Abstract

This study was conducted to study the biological control of Russian Knapweed (*Acroptilon repens* L.) by flies head (*Urophora xanthippe*) in 2010 at Research Laboratory and Greenhouse of College of Agriculture, in Birjand University. This study was due in 2 separate Experiment, the first Experiment The effect of flashed germination of Russian knapweed’s seeds and second experiment performed determine the efficiency of flies head to reduce seed knapweed production. The results showed that use of flies head decreased knapweed germination rate percentage compared to control significantly (P <0.001). Fresh and dry weight of seedlings in control treatment was 0.176, 0.009 and in treatment by using flies head was 0.025 and 0.001 respectively the results of head flies on seed performance test showed 72% average boll damage in compare to control the results was significantly different. Therefore it seems that by using this biological agent we may be offer to manage Russian knapweed.

Keywords: Biological control, Germination, Heads, Weed

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