

ever, at the cocoon stage, the number of males generally outnumber the females⁷. In the present study, an excess of males both in normal and sex-limited strains (table 1) was found. The probability values are insignificant indicating that the female: male ratio is close to the theoretical sex ratio of 50♀:50♂ in both normal and sex-limited strains. Studies conducted on several Lepidopteran insects have shown a larger number of males⁸. The decreased viability of females, especially in poor ecological conditions which are common, may be due to heterogamety of the female sex for the sex chromosomes (ZW). This results in lethal and semilethal genes of the Z chromosome being in a hemizygous state in the female in contrast to the males. The present study based on sex-ratio has shown no significant difference between the viability of normal females and sex-limited females and that the females are in general less viable compared to males.

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ANNOUNCEMENT

NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON

CURRENT TRENDS IN PHYSICAL ORGANIC CHEMISTRY

The above symposium, a three-day National Symposium entitled 'Current Trends in Physical Organic Chemistry' will be held during February 27-March 1, 1989 at the Department of Materials Science, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai.

The objective of the symposium is to acquaint university and college teachers and also young scientists and research workers with the current develop-

ments in the field of Physical Organic Chemistry by providing wide-ranging discussions and series of lectures by the experts in this area and also by presentation of papers.

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