Geographical variability in susceptibility of cotton bollworm (*Helicoverpa armigera*) to Bt toxin across northern Karnataka cotton ecosystem* 

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**Abstract**

To know the resistance development in *Helicoverpa armigera* (Hubner) to different Bt-cotton ecotypes in northern Karnataka namely Dharwad, Haveri (Tq: Ranebennur), Bijapur, Raichur and Belgaum (Tq: Bailhongal), *H. armigera* populations were collected and studied in laboratory. The populations from Raichur and Haveri were found tolerant to the *Bacillus thuringiensis* toxin (RF: 5.66 and 4.77, respectively). LC$_{50}$ values resulting from mortality of different populations ranged from 0.149 to 0.828 mg/ml. The Dharwad strain was the most susceptible (LC$_{50}$=0.149) and Belgaum and Bijapur populations were similar to each other at resistance folds of 1.17 and 1.25, respectively. Geographic populations of Haveri and Raichur recorded 4.77 and 5.66, fold resistance, respectively.