

MORPHOMETRIC ANALYSIS OF *Zollocerus variegatus* DURING POST EMBRYONIC DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract

Morphometric analysis of external parts and the gut (alimentary canal) of *Z. variegatus* during post embryonic development was carried out. Data collected included body weight, length of pronotum, Prothoracic leg, mesothoracic leg, metathoracic leg, antenna, whole body and gut. The result of the study showed that the size of the measured parts and the body weight of the insects increase progressively during the post embryonic development. There was a strong positive relationship between the body length and body weight (0.958) on one hand and between the body weight and antenna length (0.952) on the other hand. The body weight and body length slope between 1st-5th instar was less than the slope between the 6th instar and adult stage. The relevance of this information to the understanding of *Z. variegatus* behaviour was discussed.

Keywords: *Z. variegatus*, post embryonic development, morphometrics, regression analysis.