The influence of temperature on the development of *Exochomus nigromaculatus* (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae)

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The effect of temperature on the different developmental stages of *Exochomus nigromaculatus* Goeze was quantified by deriving a regression equation. Experiments were conducted at 15, 20, 25, 30, 35 and 40 Ċ and 65 ± 5٪ R.D. and 14L:10D photoperiod. Development from egg to adult ranged from 97.75 ±1.27 days at 15 Ċ to 12.05 days at 40 Ċ. Higher and lower hatching rate registered in 30 Ċ and 40 Ċ respectively. Lower threshold temperatures were computed for all developmental stages of *Exochomus nigromaculatus* by a liner regression method. Accumulated temperature for development from egg to adult were 318.07±21.59 degree days above a developmental threshold of 13.00 Ċ. The developmental threshold ranged from 10.87 Ċ for 4th instars larvae to 14.30 Ċ for 2nd instars larvae with heat unit requirements 60.53 and 25.89 degree days, respectively. The developmental threshold for egg and pupa were 12.44 and 11.44 Ċ respectively.

Key words: Temperature, Development, *Exochomus nigromaculatus*