Egyptian Journal of Biological Pest Control, 10 (1), 2000, 137-138

SCIENTIFIC NOTE

A RECENT RECORD OF PARASITOIDS ON COMMON OLIVE PESTS IN EGYPT

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(Received, July 7, 2000; Accepted, August 8, 2000)

Olive is one of the important economical crops in Egypt. It is subjected to attack by many insect pests that affect the yield quality and quantity. Among the most common pest species surveyed during this study (El-Khawas, 2000) were: the olive fruit fly, *Bacterocera (Dacus) oleae* Gmel., the olive leaf moth, *Palpita unionalis* Hb., the olive kernel borer, *Prays oleae* Bern, the armored scale insect, *Leucaspis riccae* Targ. and the red scale insect, *Aonidiella aurantii* Mask.

Few records of parasitoid species have been found on the target pests in Egypt. They were the two braconids, *Opius concolor* Szepl., on *B. oleae* (Ajjan, 1962) and *Apanteles syleptae* F. on *P. unionalis* (Foda, 1973; El-Sherif and Kaschef, 1977), and the aphilinid, *Aphytis* sp. on *L. riccae* (Moursi and Mesbah, 1985).

Intensive samples from the previous olive pests were collected biweekly throughout the two successive years, 1989 and 1999, from olive orchards located mainly at Alexandria, Fayoum and North Sinai Governorates. Samples were kept under laboratory conditions until emergence of parasitoid adults. Recovered parasitoid species were identified by the British Museum of Natural History (BMNH), London, the Centro de Studio CNR Techniche de Lotto Biologica - Via Universita, Protici, Italy, and the Scale and Mealy-bug Research Section, Plant Protection Research Institute (PPRI), Dokki, Giza, Egypt.

The following list includes hymenopterous parasitoid species recorded on the considered insect hosts:

On *B. oleae*:
- *Opius concolor* Szepl. (Braconidae).
- *Pnigalio agraules** Walker (Eulophidae).
- *Eupelmus** sp. and Macroneara* sp. (Eupelmidae).
- *Eurytorna martelli** Masi and *Eurytorna** sp. (Eurytomidae).
- *Cyrtoptyx latipes** Ronaldi (Pteromalidae).

On *P. unionalis*:
- *Apanteles syleptae* F. (Braconidae).
- *Brachymeria aegyptiaca** Masi (Chalcididae).

On *P. oleae*:
- *Apanteles** sp. and *Bracon** sp. (Braconidae).

On *L. riccae*:
- *Aphytis* sp. (Aphelinidae).

On *A. aurantii*:
- *Marietta** sp. (Aphelinidae).
- *Habrolepis** sp. (Encyrtidae).

Out of the fifteen recorded parasitoid species, twelve seem to be first records "*" in Egypt.

***Acknowledgement**: Thanks are due to the specialists of the BMNH, Prof. Viggiani and his Italian team, and Dr. S. Fahim, PPRI for their assistance in identifying the parasitoid species.*

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