

Foraging Activity of *Palmistichus elaeisis* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) at Various Densities on Pupae of the Eucalyptus Defoliator *Thyrinteina arnobia* (Lepidoptera: Geometridae)

Authors: Barbosa, Rogério Hidalgo, Zanuncio, José Cola, Pereira, Fabricio Fagundes, Kassab, Samir Oliveira, and Rossoni, Camila

Source: Florida Entomologist, 99(4) : 686-690

Published By: Florida Entomological Society

URL: <https://doi.org/10.1653/024.099.0417>

BioOne Complete (complete.BioOne.org) is a full-text database of 200 subscribed and open-access titles in the biological, ecological, and environmental sciences published by nonprofit societies, associations, museums, institutions, and presses.

Your use of this PDF, the BioOne Complete website, and all posted and associated content indicates your acceptance of BioOne's Terms of Use, available at www.bioone.org/terms-of-use.

Usage of BioOne Complete content is strictly limited to personal, educational, and non-commercial use. Commercial inquiries or rights and permissions requests should be directed to the individual publisher as copyright holder.

BioOne sees sustainable scholarly publishing as an inherently collaborative enterprise connecting authors, nonprofit publishers, academic institutions, research libraries, and research funders in the common goal of maximizing access to critical research.

Foraging activity of *Palmistichus elaeisis* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) at various densities on pupae of the eucalyptus defoliator *Thyriniteina arnobia* (Lepidoptera: Geometridae)

Rogério Hidalgo Barbosa^{1,*}, José Cola Zanuncio², Fabricio Fagundes Pereira³, Samir Oliveira Kassab³, and Camila Rossoni³

Abstract

Parasitoids are the main component of biological control of Lepidoptera defoliators in forested areas, and the densities of host insects can affect the efficiency of these natural enemies. The aim of this work was to study the biology and parasitism of *Palmistichus elaeisis* Delvare & LaSalle (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) at various densities of females on individual pupae of *Thyriniteina arnobia* Stoll (Lepidoptera: Geometridae), the major Lepidoptera pest in eucalyptus (Myrtaceae) plantations in Brazil. *Thyriniteina arnobia* pupae were exposed to *P. elaeisis* females at various parasitoid-to-host ratios: (1:1, 3:1, 6:1, 9:1, 12:1, 15:1, 18:1, and 21:1), with 12 replications. The parasitism (81.8%) and emergence (100%) rates of *P. elaeisis* on *T. arnobia* pupae were highest with 15 ovipositing females per host. The life cycle (egg to adult) of *P. elaeisis* was shortest (19.8 ± 0.5 d) at a ratio of 21:1. The largest production of *P. elaeisis* per *T. arnobia* pupa was obtained at the ratios of 15:1 (298.4 ± 5.0) and 18:1 (287.4 ± 4.3). The female sex ratio of parasitoid offspring was highest (0.97 ± 0.01) with a parasitoid-to-host ratio of 12:1. The density of 15 *P. elaeisis* females per *T. arnobia* pupa was the most appropriate one for providing high parasitism (81.8%), emergence (100%), and progeny (298.4 ± 5.0) of this parasitoid.

Key Words: biological control; looper of eucalyptus; parasitism; pupal parasitoid

Resumo

Parasitoides são os principais componentes de controle biológico de lagartas desfolhadoras em áreas florestais e o número de fêmeas por hospedeiro pode afetar a eficiência desses inimigos naturais. O objetivo deste trabalho foi estudar a biologia e o parasitismo de *Palmistichus elaeisis* Delvare & LaSalle (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) em diferentes densidades de fêmeas desse parasitoide por pupa de *Thyriniteina arnobia* Stoll (Lepidoptera: Geometridae), principal lepidóptero-praga em plantações de eucalipto no Brasil. Pupas de *T. arnobia* foram expostas ao parasitismo por fêmeas *P. elaeisis* nas seguintes proporções de parasitoides/hospedeiro: 1:1, 3:1, 6:1, 9:1, 12:1, 15:1, 18:1 e 21:1, com 12 repetições. O parasitismo (81,8%) e emergência (100%) de *P. elaeisis* em pupas de *T. arnobia* foram maiores com 15:1 parasitoides/hospedeiro. O ciclo de vida (ovo-adulto) de *P. elaeisis* foi mais curto ($19,8 \pm 0,5$ dias) em uma proporção de 21:1. A maior produção de *P. elaeisis* por pupa de *T. arnobia* foram obtidas nas densidades de 15:1 ($298,4 \pm 5,0$) e 18:1 ($287,4 \pm 4,3$), respectivamente. A razão sexual do parasitoide foi maior ($0,97 \pm 0,01$), com 12:1. A densidade de 15 *P. elaeisis* fêmeas por pupa de *T. arnobia* foi o mais adequado por apresentar maior parasitismo (81,8%), emergência (100%) e progênie ($298,4 \pm 5,0$) do parasitoide.

Palavras Chave: controle biológico; lagarta do eucalipto; parasitismo; parasitoide de pupa

Parasitoids are important natural enemies for the equilibrium of agroecosystems because they have high species and hosts diversity (Oliveira et al. 2000; Pratisoli et al. 2005). *Palmistichus elaeisis* Delvare & LaSalle (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) parasitizes and develops in Lepidoptera pupae of the families Arctiidae (Pereira et al. 2008), Bombycidae (Pereira et al. 2010), Crambidae (Bittencourt & Berti-Filho 2004; Chichera et al. 2012), Lymantriidae (Tavares et al. 2011; Zaché et al. 2012), Muscidae (Zaché et al. 2013), Noctuidae (Bittencourt & Berti-Filho 2004; Andrade et al. 2010; Pereira et al. 2013), Nymphalidae (Tavares et al. 2013a), Notodontidae (Zanuncio et al. 2015), Papilionidae (Tavares et al. 2013b), and Saturniidae (Pereira et al. 2008); it

also develops in Coleoptera pupae of the family Tenebrionidae (Zanuncio et al. 2008). Furthermore, this parasitoid was recorded in pupae of *Thyriniteina arnobia* Stoll and *Thyriniteina leucoceraea* Rindge (Lepidoptera: Geometridae), which characterizes it as a potential biological control agent in *Eucalyptus* (Myrtaceae) plantations (Pereira et al. 2008, 2011).

Thyriniteina arnobia is the major lepidopteran pest in eucalypt plantations with outbreaks in several regions of Brazil (Oliveira et al. 2005) and causes significant yield losses (Bragança et al. 1998). This pest has been controlled with insecticides that have the potential to cause mortality of natural enemies and contaminate the environment (Oliveira et

¹Faculdade de Ciências Agrárias, Universidade Federal da Grande Dourados, 79804-970, Dourados, Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil; E-mail: hidalgo.rogerio@gmail.com (R. H. B.)

²Depto de Biologia Animal, Universidade Federal de Viçosa, 36570-000, Viçosa, Minas Gerais, Brazil; E-mail: zanuncio@ufv.br (J. C. Z.)

³Faculdade de Ciências Biológicas e Ambientais, Universidade Federal da Grande Dourados, 79804-970, Dourados, Mato Grosso do Sul, Brazil; E-mail: fabriciofagundes@ufgd.edu.br (F. F. P.), samirkassab@gmail.com (S. O. K.), camilarossoni@gmail.com (C. R.)

*Corresponding author; E-mail: hidalgo.rogerio@gmail.com (R. H. B.)

al. 2011). Hence, there is need to develop lower-impact control methods for this pest (Pereira et al. 2008).

Natural enemies can reduce outbreaks of defoliator Lepidoptera in eucalypt plantations (Zanuncio et al. 1993; Zanuncio et al. 1998; Guedes et al. 2000; Zanetti et al. 2003), and the use of *P. elaeisis* in biological control programs depends on the development of mass rearing methods for this natural enemy (Pereira et al. 2011; Menezes et al. 2012). The density of female parasitoids per host can affect parasitism (Sampaio et al. 2001), progeny sex ratio (Chong & Oetting 2006, 2007), life cycle length, and the longevity of the offspring (Pereira et al. 2010).

Palmistichus elaeisis is a gregarious parasitoid, and the optimal proportion of its females per host pupa can increase efficiency and production of this natural enemy. The aim of this work was to study the biology and parasitism of *P. elaeisis* in *T. arnobia* pupae with various densities of females of this parasitoid.

Materials and Methods

The experiment was conducted at the Laboratory of Biological Control of Insects of the Animal Biology Department/Instituto de Biotecnologia Aplicada à Agropecuária (BIOAGRO) of the Universidade Federal de Viçosa (UFV) in Viçosa, Minas Gerais, Brazil.

REARING OF THE INSECTS

Rearing of the Host

Eggs of *T. arnobia* were obtained from the laboratory rearing stock of the Laboratory of Biological Control of Insects of the UFV. Larvae, soon after hatching, were placed in organza cloth bags (0.70 × 0.40 cm) containing eucalypt branches (from 6-mo-old plants of *Eucalyptus cloeziana* F. Muell.) and provided with fresh branches every 3 d, until they reached the pupal stage. Pupae were removed from these bags, sexed, separated in couples, and placed in plastic pots (500 mL) with a hole in the center of the plastic lid sealed with an organza mesh screen. Paper strips were fixed to the inside of the lids for oviposition, and pots were kept in a room at 25 ± 2 °C, 70 ± 10% RH, and a 14:10 h L:D photoperiod (adapted from Oliveira et al. 2010).

Rearing of the Parasitoid

Adults of *P. elaeisis* were kept in glass tubes (14 cm height × 2.5 cm diameter) sealed with cotton and containing a drop of honey to feed the parasitoids. *Bombyx mori* L. (Lepidoptera: Bombycidae) pupae (obtained from the company Fiação de Seda Bratac S/A, Brazil), 48 to 72 h old, were exposed to parasitism by *P. elaeisis* for 24 h at 25 ± 2 °C, 70 ± 10% RH, and a 12:12 h L:D photoperiod to maintain a colony of the parasitoid (Pereira et al. 2008).

EXPERIMENT

Thyrintina arnobia pupae that were 24 to 48 h old were individually exposed to 72- to 96-h-old *P. elaeisis* females (Andrade et al. 2012) in glass tubes (14 cm height × 2.5 cm diameter) and placed in a chamber maintained at 25 ± 2 °C, 70 ± 10% RH, and a 12:12 h L:D photoperiod, at density treatments of 1, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, and 21 parasitoids per host. After 48 h, the *P. elaeisis* females were removed from the tubes. The duration of the life cycle (egg to adult), percentage of parasitism [(number of pupae of *T. arnobia* with emergence of parasitoid + pupae without adult emergence of *T. arnobia*) ÷ (total number of pupae) × 100] (discounting the natural mortality of the host) (Abbott 1925), emergence [(number of pupae of *T. arnobia* with adult emergence of

parasitoids) ÷ (number of parasitized pupae) × 100], progeny (adults of *P. elaeisis* emerged per *T. arnobia* pupa), body length (mm), width of the head capsule (mm) (size measurements were performed with an ocular micrometer attached to a stereomicroscope), and sex ratio (number of females per number of adults) were obtained. The sex of adult parasitoids was determined by the morphological characteristics of their antennae and abdomen. Compared with males, females are usually larger in size, have a larger abdomen, and have no pigmentation between the thorax and abdomen (LaSalle 1994). The treatments were set up with 12 replications in a completely randomized design.

DATA ANALYSES

The data on duration of life cycle and the number of parasitoids emerged per *T. arnobia* pupa were subjected to analysis of variance and, when significant at 5% probability, to a regression analysis. The parasitism and emergence rates of *P. elaeisis* were subjected to a binomial distribution analysis ($P \leq 0.05$). The data of sex ratio, body length (mm), and width of the head capsule (mm) of *P. elaeisis* females and males were subjected to analysis of variance and, when significant at 5% probability, to the Scott–Knott test.

Results

The percentage of parasitism was influenced by the densities of *P. elaeisis* per *T. arnobia* pupa and ranged from 58.3 to 81.8% (Fig. 1). The percentage of parasitoid emergence was 28.6, 42.9, 62.5, 75.0, 87.5, 100, 89.9, and 50.0% at the densities of 1, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, and 21 parasitoids per host, respectively (Fig. 1).

The duration of the life cycle (egg to adult) decreased with increasing density of *P. elaeisis* females from 25 to 18 d ($\hat{y} = 24.518 - 1.0024x + 0.09066327x^2 - 0.00254969x^3$; $F = 14.2446$; $P = 0.0001$; $R^2 = 0.7102$) (Fig. 2A). The density of *P. elaeisis* females per *T. arnobia* pupa influenced the progeny of this parasitoid ($\hat{y} = 133.217 + 140.043 / (1 + \exp(-(x - 13.8951) / 0.0248825))$; $F = 4.1382$; $P = 0.0117$; $R^2 = 0.85$), with a minimum of 30 and a maximum of 724 *P. elaeisis* offspring produced at the densities of 1 and 15 parasitoids per host pupa, respectively (Fig.

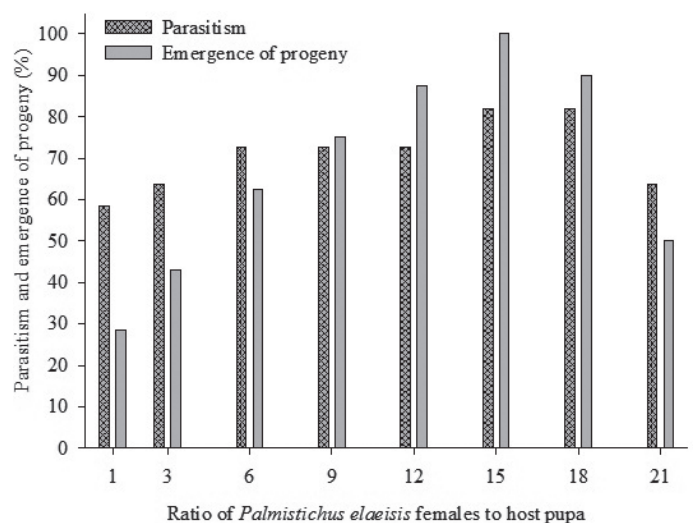


Fig. 1. Percentage of pupae parasitized and percentage of emergence of *Palmistichus elaeisis* with a density of 1, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, or 21 ovipositing females per *Thyrintina arnobia* pupa at 25 ± 2 °C, 70 ± 10% RH, and a 12:12 h L:D photoperiod. Statistical significance: parasitism, $P = 0.3770$; emergence, $P = 0.034$.

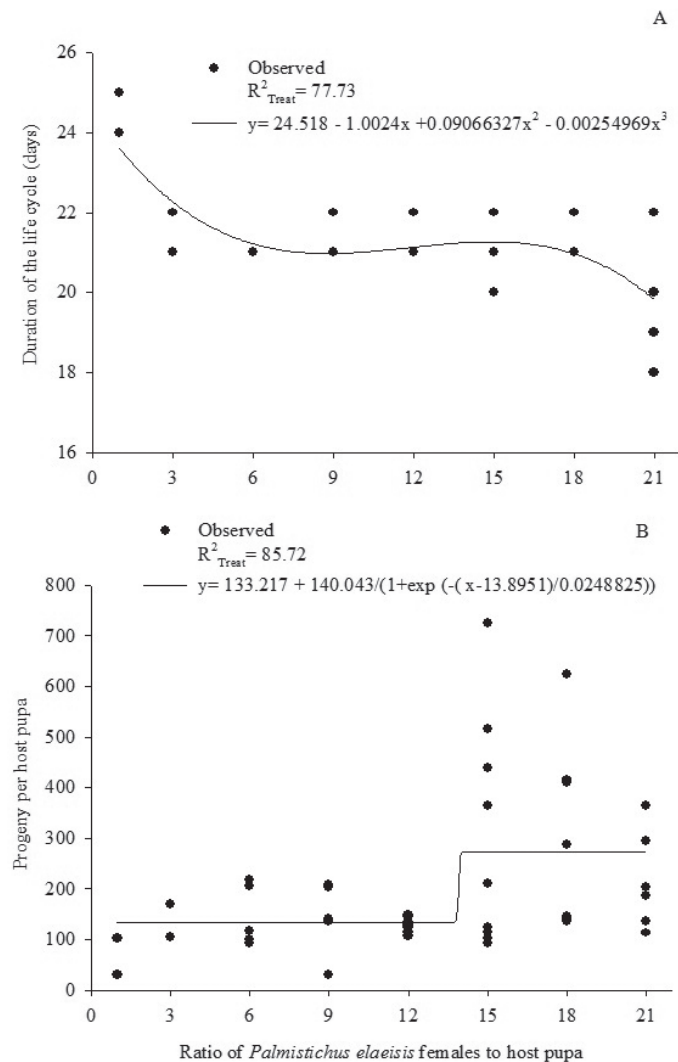


Fig. 2. (A) Duration of life cycle (egg to adult) and (B) numbers of *Palmistichus elaeisis* progeny with a density of 1, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, or 21 ovipositing females per *Thyrinteina arnobia* pupa at 25 ± 2 °C, 70 ± 10% RH, and a 12:12 h L:D photoperiod.

2B). The sex ratio of *P. elaeisis* emerged from *T. arnobia* pupae ranged from 0.46 ± 0.45 to 0.97 ± 0.01 (number of females per total number of adults) without differences between the densities of 3 to 21 parasitoids per host ($P > 0.05$) (Table 1).

The body length (mm) of emerged *P. elaeisis* females ranged from 2.02 ± 0.01 to 2.28 ± 0.02 and that of males from 1.71 ± 0.02 to 1.78 ± 0.01, with no differences between the different densities of this parasitoid ($P > 0.05$) (Table 1). The width of the head capsule (mm) of emerged *P. elaeisis* females did not differ between treatments ($P > 0.05$), whereas that of males ranged from 0.47 ± 0.01 to 0.51 ± 0.01, with differences between treatments ($P \leq 0.05$).

Discussion

The density of *P. elaeisis* females per *T. arnobia* pupa affected the percentage of parasitism, percentage of emergence, and viability of the offspring of this parasitoid. *Thyrinteina arnobia* pupae may have effective defense mechanisms against *P. elaeisis* because the emergence of these parasitoids was low at the densities of 1 and 3 parasitoids per host. Another hypothesis is that the size of this host requires a larger number of parasitoids to neutralize its immune system (Smilanich et al. 2009; Pereira et al. 2010; Altoé et al. 2012; Hood et al. 2012).

The reproduction of *P. elaeisis* was different from that of the parasitoid *Trichospilus diatraeae* Cherian & Margabandhu (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) in pupae of *Anticarsia gemmatalis* Hübner, *Heliothis virescens* (F.), *Spodoptera frugiperda* (Smith) (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae), *Diatraea saccharalis* (F.) (Lepidoptera: Crambidae), and *Tenebrio molitor* L. (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae) exposed to one or more females of this parasitoid (Paron & Berti-Filho 2000; Favero et al. 2013). The variability in reproductive success may be related to inadequate proportions of female parasitoids per host, which reduced oviposition and toxin injections necessary to reduce the immune response of the host (Andrade et al. 2010; Cusumano et al. 2010; Harvey et al. 2013). In contrast, the parasitism and emergence ratios of *P. elaeisis* from *B. mori* pupae were similar with different densities of this parasitoid, suggesting that *B. mori* did not present nutritional or physiological barriers for the development of *P. elaeisis* (Pereira et al. 2010).

The short life cycle (egg to adult) of *P. elaeisis* in *T. arnobia* pupae can be explained by competition among parasitoid larvae and by physical or physiological suppression by the host, as reported for this parasitoid in *B. mori* pupae (Pereira et al., 2010). This pattern has also been reported with different densities of *T. diatraeae* in pupae of *T. molitor* (Favero et al. 2013) and *D. saccharalis* (Rodrigues et al. 2013). Besides the parasitoid density, the host species can affect the development period of parasitoids. This effect can be attributed to differences in nutritional quality and size of pupae, because the host is the food source and shelter for immatures of these natural enemies and, if inappropriate, impedes their development (Pastori et al. 2012).

Table 1. Sex ratio (number of females / [number of females + males]), body size, and width of the head capsule of *Palmistichus elaeisis* (mean ± standard error) progeny emerged with a density of 1, 3, 6, 9, 12, 15, 18, or 21 ovipositing females per *Thyrinteina arnobia* pupa at 25 ± 2 °C, 70 ± 10% RH, and a 12:12 h L:D photoperiod.

Density	n	Sex ratio (females per progeny)	n	Body size (mm)		Head capsule (mm)	
				Female	Male	Female	Male
1	2	0.46 ± 0.45b	12	2.23 ± 0.02a	1.78 ± 0.01a	0.54 ± 0.01a	0.49 ± 0.01b
3	3	0.92 ± 0.05a	12	2.02 ± 0.05c	1.71 ± 0.02b	0.53 ± 0.01a	0.47 ± 0.01b
6	5	0.94 ± 0.01a	12	2.02 ± 0.01c	1.82 ± 0.02a	0.53 ± 0.01a	0.47 ± 0.01b
9	6	0.94 ± 0.02a	12	2.28 ± 0.02a	1.82 ± 0.02a	0.54 ± 0.01a	0.50 ± 0.01a
12	7	0.97 ± 0.01a	12	2.11 ± 0.04b	1.82 ± 0.01a	0.54 ± 0.01a	0.48 ± 0.01b
15	9	0.96 ± 0.01a	12	2.26 ± 0.05a	1.82 ± 0.01a	0.55 ± 0.01a	0.50 ± 0.01a
18	8	0.95 ± 0.01a	12	2.28 ± 0.02a	1.80 ± 0.01a	0.54 ± 0.01a	0.51 ± 0.01a
21	6	0.94 ± 0.01a	12	2.27 ± 0.03a	1.79 ± 0.02a	0.54 ± 0.01a	0.50 ± 0.01a

Means followed by the same lowercase letter per column do not differ by the Scott-Knott test at 5% probability.

The greatest number of *P. elaeisis* individuals produced per *T. arnobia* pupa at the densities of 15 and 18 parasitoids per host shows that 15 females of this natural enemy are sufficient to counteract defense mechanisms of this host. On the other hand, densities of 1, 3, 6, 9, and 21 females per *T. arnobia* pupa reduced the number of progeny of this parasitoid. This finding indicates that inadequate proportions of females per host result in reduced oviposition or increased competition and death of immature parasitoids (Pereira et al. 2010). The density of the parasitoid females per host pupa can reduce fertility and efficiency of mass rearing, primarily due to mortality of immatures within the pupae (Harvey et al. 2013) and competition between adults during oviposition (Pereira et al. 2013).

The high sex ratio (i.e., the predominance of females) of *P. elaeisis* offspring in *T. arnobia* pupae is important because parasitoid females are responsible for the parasitism and progeny production (Rodrigues et al. 2013) as reported for this parasitoid with *A. gemmatalis*, *B. mori*, and *D. saccharalis* pupae (Pereira et al. 2010, 2013; Chichera et al. 2012). Moreover, the sex ratio of *P. elaeisis* in *T. arnobia* pupae was higher than in *Sarsina violascens* (Herrich-Schaeffer) (Lepidoptera: Lymantriidae), likely due to differences in nutritional value, physiological barriers, and defense capacity of *S. violascens* pupae (Zaché et al. 2012). A decrease in sex ratio as a function of host species may reduce the efficacy of *P. elaeisis* parasitism, because parasitism is maximized when a large number of females is produced (Pereira et al. 2010).

The size range of *P. elaeisis* adults with different densities of parasitoid females can be explained by the limited resources of the host pupa as the number of larvae developing inside the host increases (Tian et al. 2008; Harvey et al. 2013). A reduced body size may reduce the efficiency of biological control, because body size is positively correlated with indicators of quality of parasitoids such as longevity, fecundity, progeny emerged, and sex ratio (Pereira et al. 2010).

The parasitism and development of *P. elaeisis*, independent of the density of its females, on *T. arnobia* pupae demonstrate that this natural enemy has potential to reduce outbreaks and possible damage caused by this insect defoliator in eucalyptus plantations. Successful rearing of this parasitoid will depend on the density of ovipositing females per host pupa.

Acknowledgments

We thank the Brazilian institutions Conselho Nacional de Desenvolvimento Científico e Tecnológico (CNPq), Coordenação de Aperfeiçoamento de Pessoal de Nível Superior (CAPES), Fundação de Amparo à Pesquisa do Estado de Minas Gerais (FAPEMIG), and Fundação de Apoio à Pesquisa do Ensino e a Cultura de Mato Grosso do Sul (FAPEMS) for financial support.

References Cited

Abbott WS. 1925. A method of computing the effectiveness of an insecticide. *Journal of Economic Entomology* 18: 265–267.

Altoé TS, Pratisoli D, Carvalho JR, Santos Junior HJG, Paes JPP, Bueno RCOF, Bueno AF. 2012. *Trichogramma pretiosum* (Hymenoptera: Trichogrammatidae) parasitism of *Trichoplusia ni* (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae) eggs under different temperatures. *Annals of the Entomological Society of America* 105: 82–89.

Andrade GS, Serrão JE, Zanuncio JC, Zanuncio TV, Leite GLD, Polanczyk RA. 2010. Immunity of an alternative host can be overcome by higher densities of its parasitoids *Palmistichus elaeisis* and *Trichospilus diatraeae*. *PLoS One* 5: e13231.

Andrade GS, Sousa AH, Santos JC, Gama FC, Serrão JE, Zanuncio JC. 2012. Oogenesis pattern and type of ovariole of the parasitoid *Palmistichus elaeisis* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae). *Anais da Academia Brasileira de Ciências* 84: 767–774.

Bittencourt MAL, Berti-Filho E. 2004. Desenvolvimento dos estágios imaturos de *Palmistichus elaeisis* Delvare & LaSalle (Hymenoptera, Eulophidae) em pupas de Lepidoptera. *Revista Brasileira de Entomologia* 48: 65–68.

Bragança M, Souza O, Zanuncio JC. 1998. Environmental heterogeneity as a strategy for pest management in *Eucalyptus* plantations. *Forest Ecology and Management* 102: 9–12.

Chichera RA, Pereira FF, Kassab SO, Barbosa RH, Pastori PL, Rossoni C. 2012. Capacidade de busca e reprodução de *Trichospilus diatraeae* e *Palmistichus elaeisis* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) em pupas de *Diatraea saccharalis* (Lepidoptera: Crambidae). *Interciencia* 37: 852–856.

Chong JH, Oetting RD. 2006. Functional response and progeny production of the Madeira mealybug parasitoid, *Anagyrus* sp. nov. nr. *sinope*: the effects of host and parasitoid densities. *Biological Control* 39: 320–328.

Chong JH, Oetting RD. 2007. Progeny fitness of the mealybug parasitoid *Anagyrus* sp. nov. nr. *sinope* (Hymenoptera: Encyrtidae) as affected by brood size, sex ratio, and host quality. *Florida Entomologist* 90: 656–664.

Cusumano A, Peri E, Bradleigh VS, Colazza S. 2010. Interspecific extrinsic and intrinsic competitive interactions in egg parasitoids. *Biological Control* 57: 719–734.

Favero K, Pereira FF, Kassab SO, Oliveira HN, Costa DP, Zanuncio JC. 2013. Biological characteristics of *Trichospilus diatraeae* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) progeny are influenced by the number of females exposed per pupa of *Tenebrio molitor* (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae). *Florida Entomologist* 96: 583–589.

Guedes RNC, Zanuncio TV, Zanuncio JC, Medeiros AGB. 2000. Species richness and fluctuation of defoliator Lepidoptera populations in Brazilian plantations of *Eucalyptus grandis* as affected by plant age and weather factors. *Forest Ecology and Management* 137: 179–184.

Harvey JA, Poelman EH, Tanaka T. 2013. Intrinsic inter- and intraspecific competition in parasitoid wasps. *Annual Review of Entomology* 58: 333–351.

Hood G, Egan S, Feder J. 2012. Interspecific competition and speciation in endoparasitoids. *Evolutionary Biology* 39: 219–230.

Lasalle J. 1994. North American genera of Tetrastichinae (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae). *Journal of Natural History* 28: 109–236.

Menezes CWG, Soares MA, Santos JB, Assis Júnior SL, Fonseca AJ, Zanuncio JC. 2012. Reproductive and toxicological impacts of herbicides used in *Eucalyptus* culture in Brazil on the parasitoid *Palmistichus elaeisis* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae). *Weed Research* 52: 520–525.

Oliveira HN, Zanuncio JC, Pratisoli D, Cruz I. 2000. Parasitism rate and viability of *Trichogramma maxacalii* (Hym.: Trichogrammatidae) parasitoid of the *Eucalyptus* defoliator *Euselasia apison* (Lep.: Riodinidae), on eggs of *Anagasta kuehniella* (Lep.: Pyralidae). *Forest Ecology and Management* 130: 1–6.

Oliveira HN, Zanuncio JC, Pedruzi EP, Espindula MC. 2005. Rearing of *Thyrinteina arnobia* (Lepidoptera: Geometridae) on guava and eucalyptus in laboratory. *Brazilian Archives of Biology and Technology* 48: 801–806.

Oliveira HN, Pedruzi EP, Pereira FF. 2010. Técnica de criação de *Thyrinteina arnobia* (Lepidoptera: Geometridae). Embrapa Agropecuária Oeste, Dourados, MS, Brazil.

Oliveira HN, Espindula MC, Duarte MM, Pereira FF, Zanuncio JC. 2011. Development and reproduction of *Podisus nigrispinus* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae) fed with *Thyrinteina arnobia* (Lepidoptera: Geometridae) reared on guava leaves. *Brazilian Archives of Biology and Technology* 54: 429–434.

Paron MR, Berti-Filho E. 2000. Capacidade reprodutiva de *Trichospilus diatraeae* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) em pupas de diferentes hospedeiros (Lepidoptera). *Scientia Agrícola* 57: 355–358.

Pastori PL, Pereira FF, Andrade GS, Silva RO, Zanuncio JC, Pereira AIA. 2012. Reproduction of *Trichospilus diatraeae* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) in pupae of two lepidopterans defoliators of eucalypt. *Revista Colombiana de Entomologia* 38: 91–93.

Pereira FF, Zanuncio JC, Tavares MT, Pastori PL, Jacques GC. 2008. Record of *Trichospilus diatraeae* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) as parasitoid of the eucalyptus defoliator *Thyrinteina arnobia* (Lepidoptera: Geometridae) in Brazil. *Phytoparasitica* 36: 304–306.

Pereira FF, Zanuncio JC, Serrão JE, Zanuncio TV, Pratisoli D, Pastori PL. 2010. The density of females of *Palmistichus elaeisis* Delvare and LaSalle (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) affects their reproductive performance on pupae of *Bombyx mori* L. (Lepidoptera: Bombycidae). *Anais da Academia Brasileira de Ciências* 82: 323–331.

Pereira FF, Zanuncio JC, Oliveira HN, Grance EALV, Pastori PL, Gava-Oliveira MD. 2011. Thermal requirements and estimate number of generations of *Palmistichus elaeisis* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) in different *Eucalyptus* plantations regions. *Brazilian Journal of Biology* 17: 431–436.

Pereira FF, Zanuncio JC, Kassab SO, Pastori PL, Barbosa RH, Rossoni C. 2013. Biological characteristics of *Palmistichus elaeisis* Delvare & Lasalle (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) on refrigerated pupae of *Anticarsia gemmatalis* Hübner (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae). *Chilean Journal of Agricultural Research* 73: 86–91.

Pratisoli D, Vianna UR, Zago HB, Pastori PL. 2005. Capacidade de dispersão de *Trichogramma* em tomateiro estaqueado. *Pesquisa Agropecuária Brasileira* 40: 613–616.

- Rodrigues MAT, Pereira FF, Kassab SO, Pastori PL, Glaeser DF, Oliveira HN, Zanuncio JC. 2013. Thermal requirements and generation estimates of *Trichospilus diatraeae* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) in sugarcane producing regions of Brasil. *Florida Entomologist* 96: 154–159.
- Sampaio MV, Bueno VHP, Pérez-Maluf R. 2001. Parasitismo de *Aphidius colemani* Viereck (Hymenoptera: Aphididae) em diferentes densidades de *Myzus persicae* (Sulzer) (Hemiptera: Aphididae). *Neotropical Entomology* 30: 81–87.
- Smilanich AM, Lee A, Dyer A, Chambers JQ, Bowers MD. 2009. Immunological cost of chemical defence and the evolution of herbivore diet breadth. *Ecology Letters* 12: 612–621.
- Tavares WS, Zanuncio TV, Hansson C, Serrão JE, Zanuncio JC. 2011. Emergence of *Palmistichus elaeisis* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) from pupae of *Thagona tibialis* (Lepidoptera: Lymantriidae) collected in the medicinal plant *Terminalia catappa* (Combretaceae). *Entomological News* 122: 250–256.
- Tavares WS, Hansson C, Mielke OHH, Serrão JE, Zanuncio JC. 2013a. Parasitism of *Palmistichus elaeisis* Delvare & LaSalle, 1993 on pupae of *Methona themisto* (Hübner, [1818]) reared on two hosts (Lepidoptera: Nymphalidae; Hymenoptera: Eulophidae). *SHILAP Revista de Lepidopterología* 41: 43–48.
- Tavares WS, Soares MA, Mielke OHH, Poderoso JCM, Serrão JE, Zanuncio JC. 2013b. Emergence of *Palmistichus elaeisis* Delvare and LaSalle, 1993 (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) from pupae of *Heraclides anchisiades* (Hübner, [1809]) (Lepidoptera: Papilionidae) in the laboratory. *Folia Biologica (Kra-kow)* 61: 231–237.
- Tian SP, Zang JH, Yan YH, Wang CZ. 2008. Interspecific competition between the ichneumonid *Campoletis chlorideae* and the braconid *Microplitis mediator* in their host *Helicoverpa armigera*. *Entomologia Experimentalis et Applicata* 127: 10–19.
- Zaché B, Zaché RRC, Wilcken CF. 2012. Evaluation of *Palmistichus elaeisis* Delvare & LaSalle (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) as parasitoid of the *Sarsina violascens* Herrich-Schaeffer (Lepidoptera: Lymantriidae). *Journal of Plant Studies* 1: 85–89.
- Zaché B, Zaché RRC, Carlos CM, Wilcken CF. 2013. *Musca domestica* as a host for mass rearing of parasitoid *Palmistichus elaeisis* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae). *Agrociência* 17: 98–100.
- Zanetti R, Zanuncio JC, Vilela EF, Leite HG, Jaffe K, Oliveira AC. 2003. Level of economic damage for leaf-cutting ants (Hymenoptera: Formicidae) in *Eucalyptus* plantations in Brazil. *Sociobiology* 42: 433–442.
- Zanuncio JC, Alves JB, Santos GP, Campos WO. 1993. Levantamento e flutuação populacional de lepidópteros associados à eucaliptocultura: VI - região de Belo Oriente, Minas Gerais. *Pesquisa Agropecuária Brasileira* 28: 1121–1127.
- Zanuncio JC, Pereira FF, Jacques GC, Tavares MT, Serrão JE. 2008. *Tenebrio molitor* Linnaeus (Coleoptera: Tenebrionidae), a new alternative host to rear the pupae parasitoid *Palmistichus elaeisis* Delvare & LaSalle (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae). *Coleopterists Bulletin* 62: 64–66.
- Zanuncio JC, Vinha GL, Ribeiro RC, Fernandes BV, Kassab SO, Wilcken CF, Zanuncio TV. 2015. *Psorocampa denticulata* (Lepidoptera: Notodontidae) pupae as an alternative host for *Palmistichus elaeisis* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae). *Florida Entomologist* 98: 1003–1005.
- Zanuncio TV, Zanuncio JC, Miranda MMM, Medeiros AGB. 1998. Effect of plantation age on diversity and population fluctuation of Lepidoptera collected in eucalyptus plantations in Brazil. *Forest Ecology and Management* 108: 91–98.