

Parasitism of apple fruit fly

Characteristics of natural, semi-natural and controlled habitats (orchard) and cultural practices affecting the parasitism of *Anastrepha fraterculus* (fruit fly) in apple orchards in the Parana region. Basis for biological control.

ABSTRACT

In alternative agricultural production approaches, the agricultural production system is defined as an area large enough to include forests, hedgerows, riparian forests, farmland and other non cultivated agricultural areas. These systems comprise a diversity of habitats with a large insect diversity, be there neutral to crops, phytophagous or entomophagous, and the presence or not of host plants. Temperate fruit orchards in southern Brazil encrur a serious threat due to the South American fly, *Anastrepha fraterculus* (Teixeira et al. 2011). The control of *A. fraterculus* is performed with organophosphates, pyrethroids and neonicotinoids, many of which are broad-spectrum. Biological control programs appear as a potential tool for the integrated pest management of fruit flies. In the State of São Paulo the following native parasitoids of larvae of *A. Fraterculus* were identified: *Doryctobracon areolatus* (Szépligeti), *Doryctobracon brasiliensis* (Szépligeti), *Doryctobracon fluminensis* (Szépligeti), *Opius bellus* (Gahan) and *Utes anastrephae* (Viereck) (Leonel Jr, 1995). In Paraná, this study has not been conducted (A. Malavasi, personal communication). *D. areolatus* is the native parasitoid with the largest distribution in Brazil (Canal & Zuchi 2000). *Diachasmimorpha longicaudata* (Ashmead) is the most commonly used parasitoid in inundative biological control programs against *Anastrepha* spp. worldwide (Ovruski et al.2000). All these parasitoids may use resources (food, alternative hosts, refugia) from natural or semi-natural habitats surrounding the orchards.

Keywords : Bio-aggressor, Cultivation technique, Forest fragmentation, Management strategy, Parasitism, Participatory, Apple, Brazil

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Project leader : Claire Lavigne

Project leader's institution : INRA-INRAE

Project leader's RU : PSH

Budget allocated : 4784 €

Total budget allocated (including co-financing) : 100000 €

Funding : Labex

GOAL

Identifying reservoirs of the fruit fly *Anastrepha fraterculus* and of its parasitoids in semi-natural habitats surrounding apple orchards

ACTION

Trapping of flies and parasitoids in orchards that are located either near or not near remaining Atlantic forest with / without spontaneous hosts of the fly (3 traps x 98 parcels in 3 areas) by the Brazilian partner;

-Exchanges of skills on the establishment of observation designs, morphological and molecular identification of flies and their parasitoids and statistical analysis of landscape data.

-Hosting of young Brazilian scientists in PSH for medium term stays and of confirmed scientists for short stays; short missions of French scientists at the University of Parana.

RESULTS

98 parcels of apple orchard were selected and characterized for their landscape and practices; Insect trapping lasted for three years every week or every second week; Data were kept for 66 parcels monitored for at least 3 years.

-Molecular characterization of 15 *A. fraterculus* by COI gene sequencing showed uncertainties in morphological identification..

- The statistical models show that in general there is no effect of the native forest on the abundance of fruit flies except in the specific case of the presence of loquat which seems to increase the amount of flies in the nearby plot. This could be explained by the fact that the loquat sets fruit just before the apple and also harbors *A. fraterculus*.

-Short missions in Brazil for two scientists and hosting of a Brazilian doctoral student (12 months) a master student (3 months) and two visits of two Brazilian professors.

PERSPECTIVES

Publication of the results obtained.

- Post-doc project to analyze the parasitism of fruit flies in the same experimental set-up (101 plots).