

Investigations on the Various Aspects of Hymenopterous Egg Parasitoids in Alleviating the Outbreak Occurrence of *Eurygaster integriceps* in Iran

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ABSTRACT

Field investigations during four years in irrigated wheat growing areas of Markazi and Tehran provinces revealed that in the fields where the population of hymenopterous egg parasitoids is remarkably high, there will be not only a substantial reduction in the Sunn Pest population, but also an alteration in the usual coincidence between the occurrence of the most aggressive evolutionary phase of the pest (adults of the new generation) and the most vulnerable growing stage of wheat (maturation period of the grains) will happen in the profit of wheat plants. In other words, in locations where the level of activity of the egg parasitoids is high, the percentage of the new generation adults is lower at harvesting time when compared with that of the locations not suitable for the activity and survival of these beneficial wasps.

In this regard, during the years 1987, 1988, 1991 and 1993, the population of the new adult individuals of Sunn Pest, in our experimental fields with high activity level of *Trissolcus* egg parasitoids reached 61.5%, 57%, 63% and 84.5% of the whole population of the pest in the respective years, while in the other experimental fields with low population of these parasites the corresponding figures have been 67%, 70.5%, 83.5% and 89.7% at wheat maturity.

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