

ERASMUS + BLENDED  
INTENSIVE PROGRAMME

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# AGROECOLOGY AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS

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the European Union





# Food webs in biological pest control

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*27 May 2024*



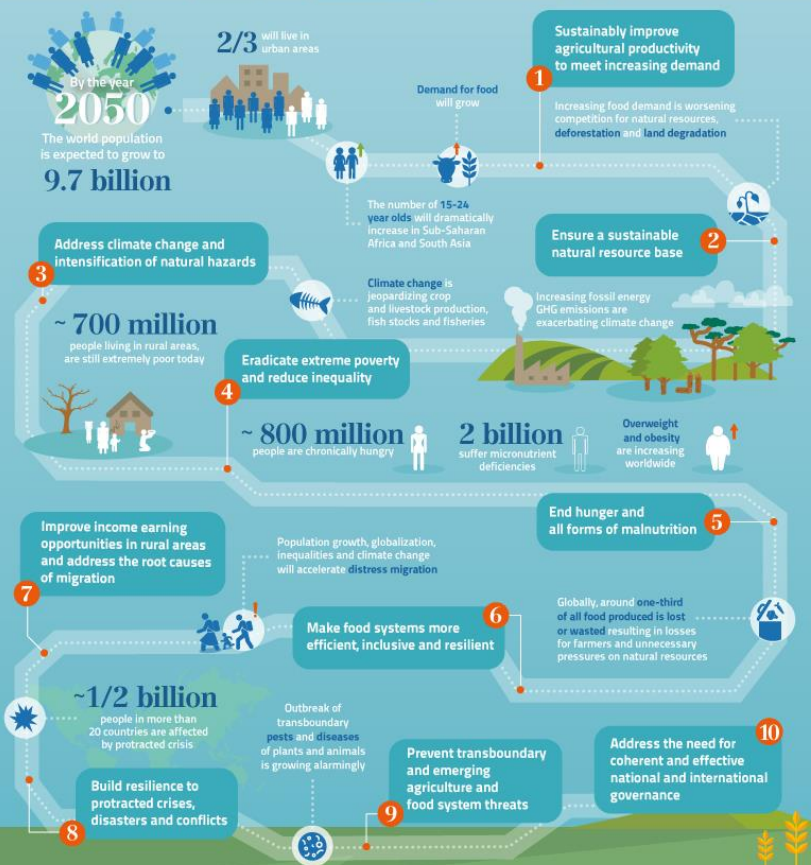
**Università  
di Catania**





# The future of food and agriculture

The global trends and **challenges** that are shaping our future



# Challenges of modern agriculture



**BETTER PRODUCTION**



**BETTER NUTRITION**



**BETTER ENVIRONMENT**

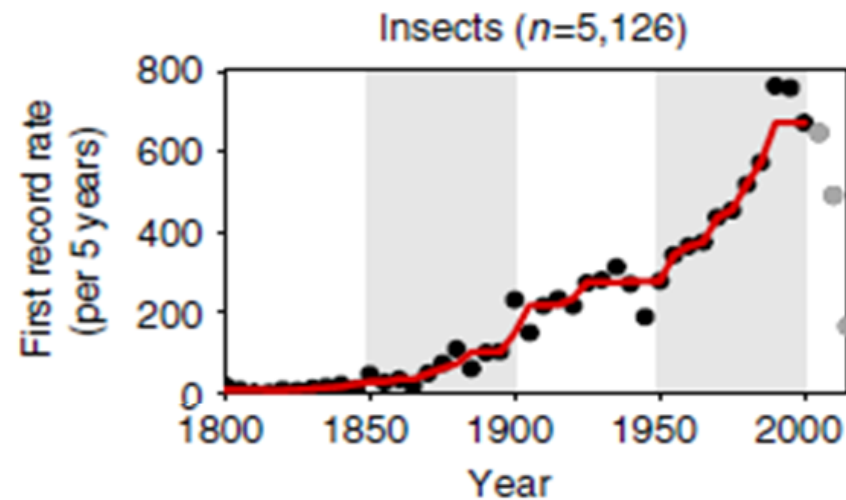


**BETTER LIFE**



# Exotic species invasion

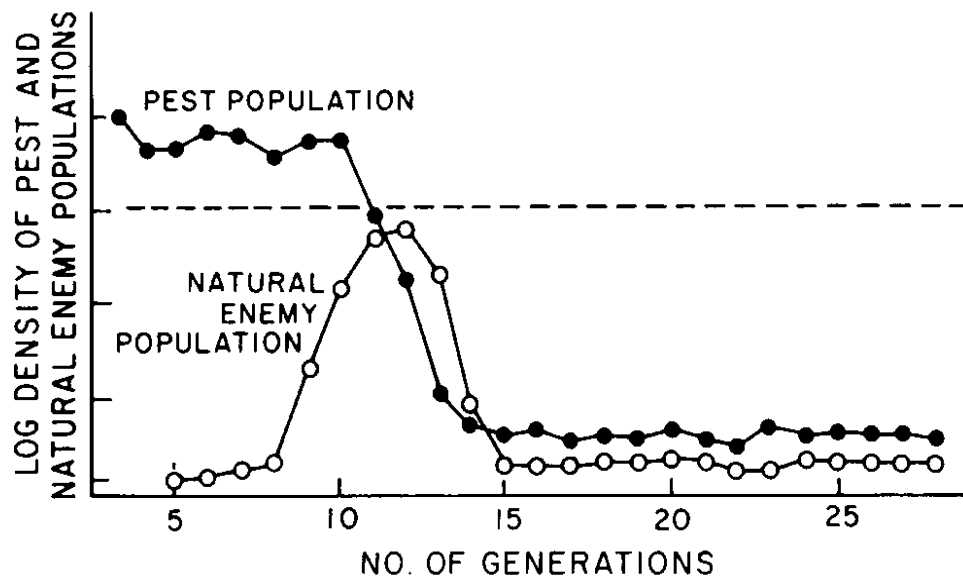
- **Increasing trend**
- Global **ecological and economical challenge** because invasive organisms may alter species communities and ecosystem services provided



(Seebens *et al.*, 2017)

# Exotic species invasion

- Higher **competitiveness** compared to native species
- Favorable climatic conditions (global warming)
- No effect of diseases and natural enemies (**enemy release hypothesis**)
  - The number of natural enemy species is reduced (*apparent enemy reduction*)
  - The effect of these enemies on the invader is lower (*realized enemy release*)





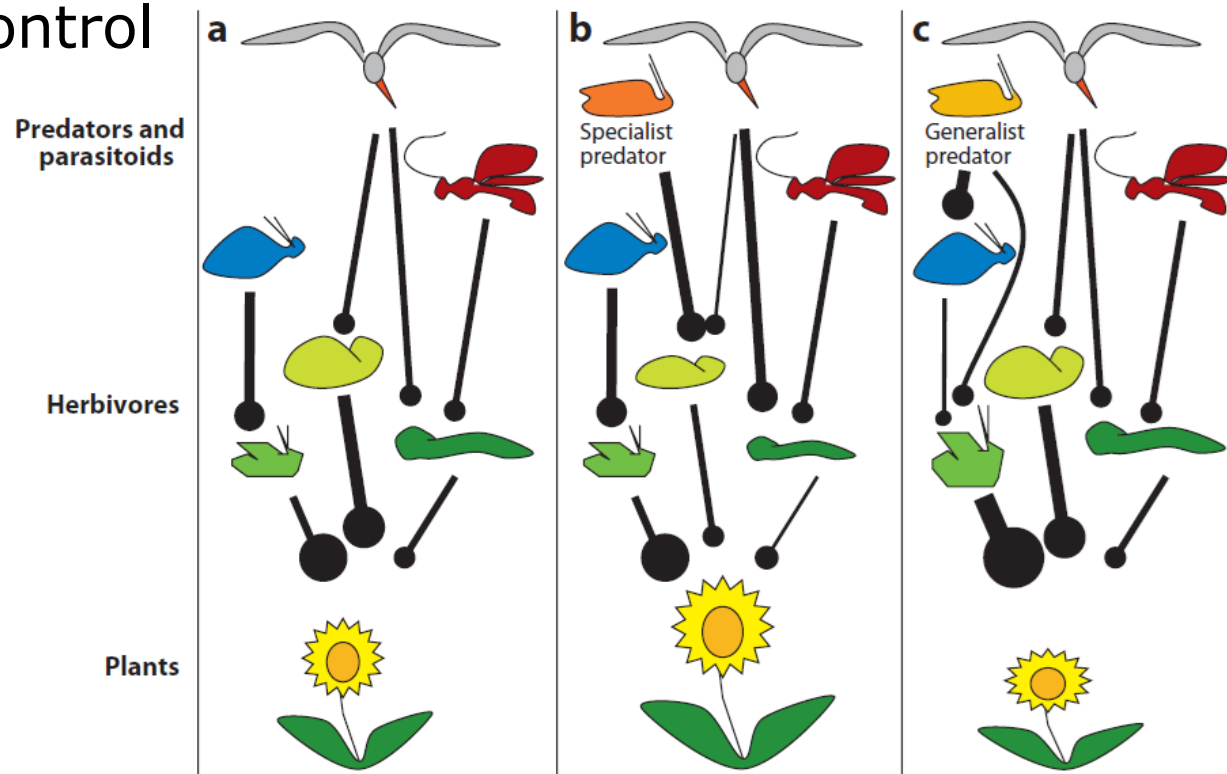
# Exotic species invasion

- The **enemy release hypothesis** essentially forms the theoretical rationale for classical biological control
- Knowledge of **biotic limiting factors** in the introduced range is crucial in research on biological invasions and in the implementation of any effective control strategy



# Natural enemy diversity and biocontrol

- Biocontrol traditionally mainly focused on specific natural enemies for each pest control
- However, pest-enemy interactions are often embedded in rich communities of multiple interacting pests and natural enemies with effects on the efficacy of biological pest control

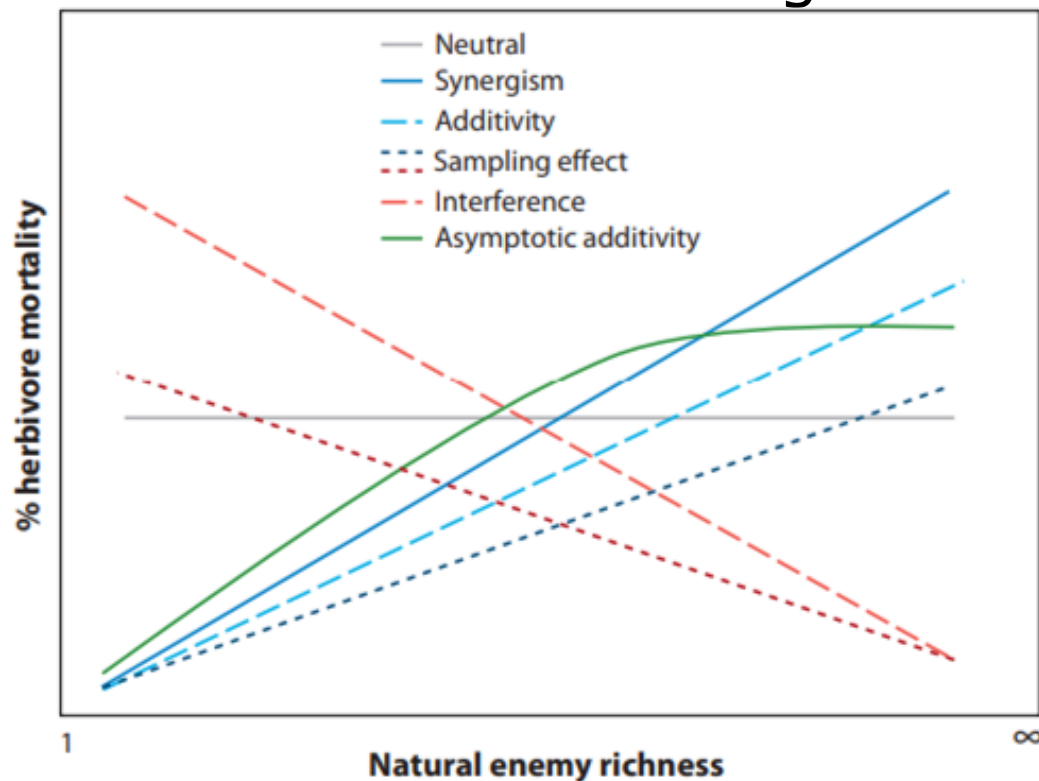


(Letourneau *et al.*, 2009)

# Natural enemy diversity and biocontrol

➤ Effects of natural enemy diversity on herbivore populations depend on whether the interaction among natural enemy species is

- Positive
- Neutral
- Antagonistic



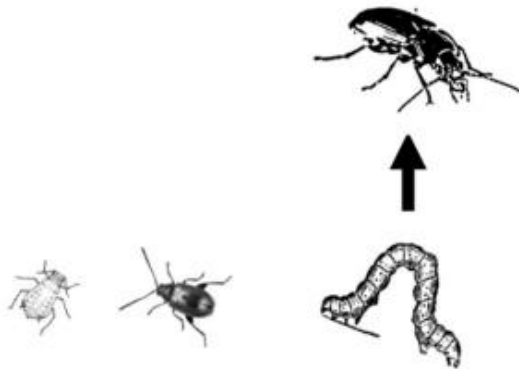
(Letourneau *et al.*, 2009)



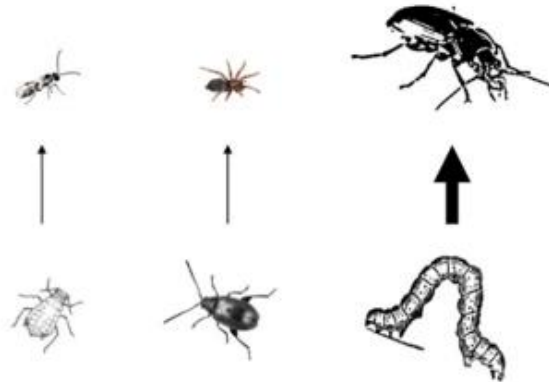
# Natural enemy diversity and biocontrol

- Natural enemy biodiversity
  - number of species attacking pests (species richness)
  - their relative abundances (species evenness)
- Only natural enemy communities with high richness and evenness exert strong suppression on all pests

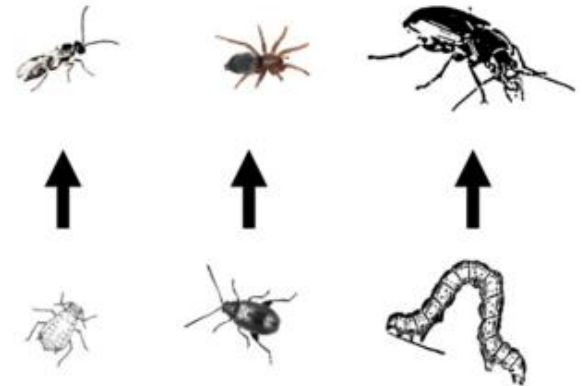
(A) Low enemy richness



(B) Low enemy evenness



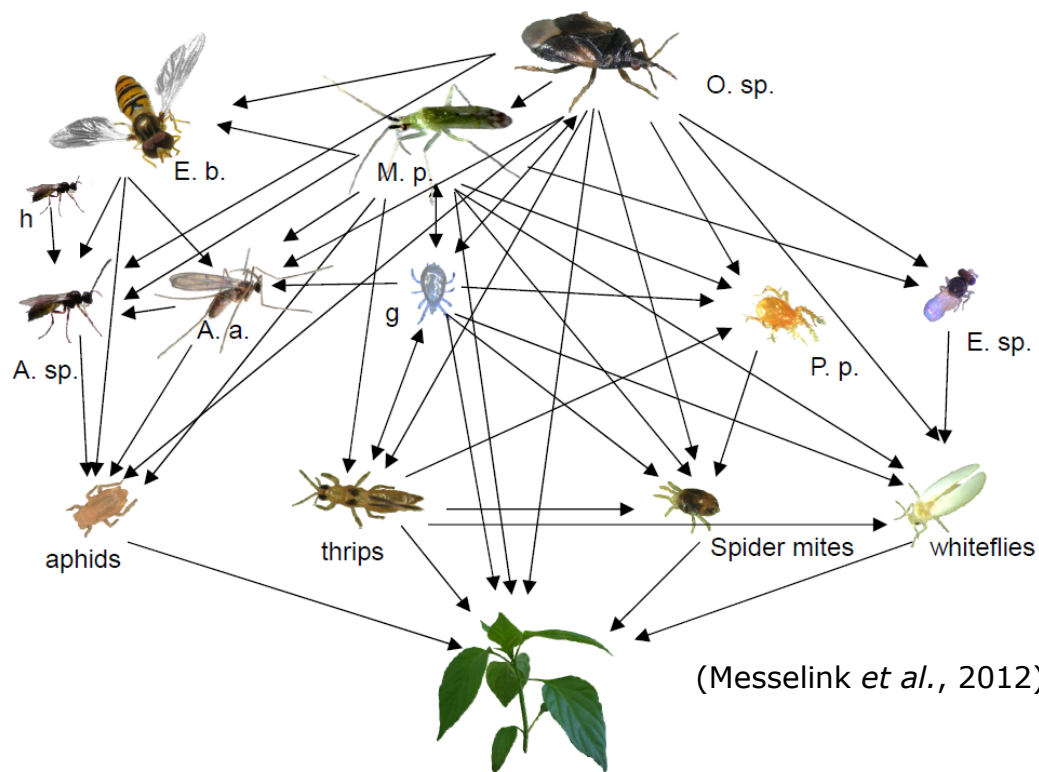
(C) High richness and evenness





# Food webs

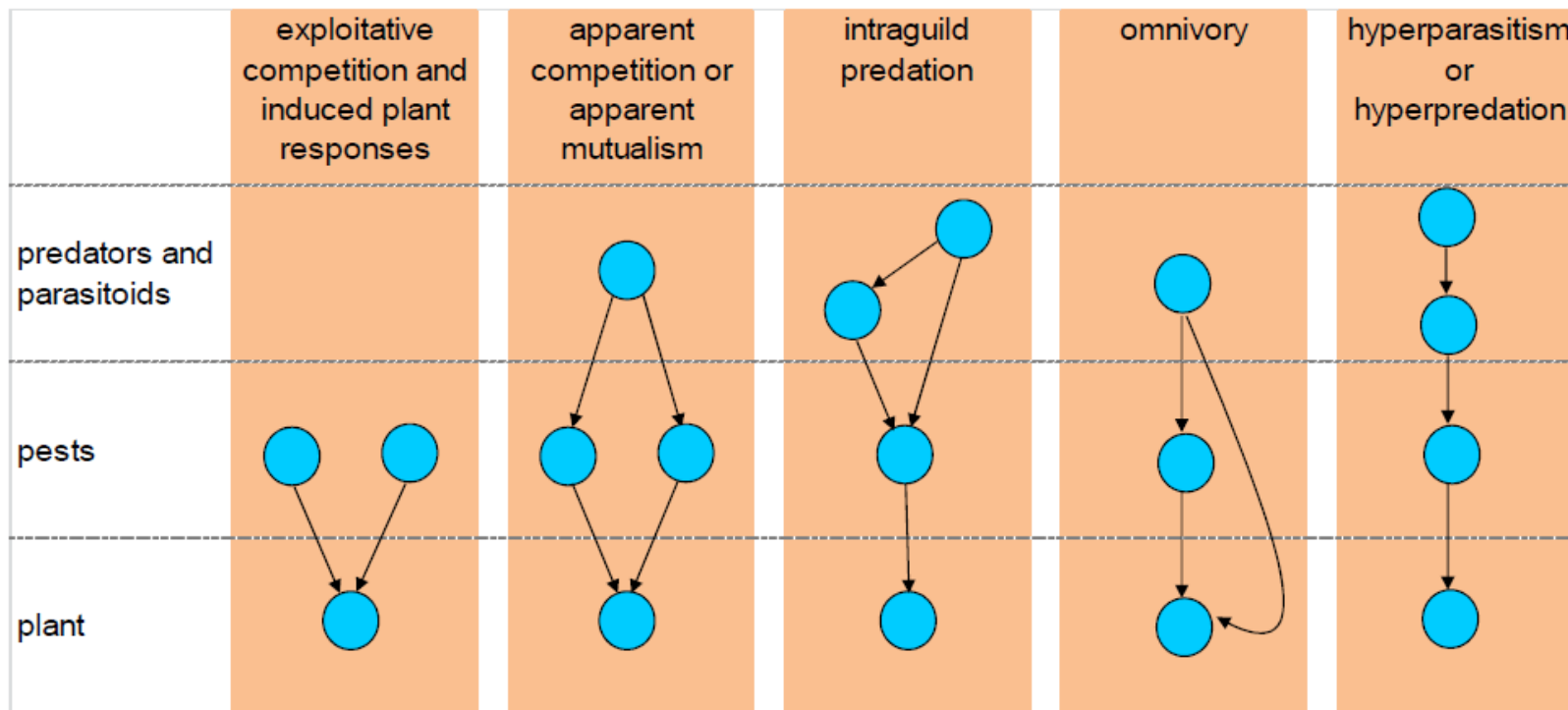
- A **network of food chains** interconnected at various trophic levels so as to form a number of feeding connections amongst different organisms of a biotic community
- Arthropod food webs are often complex and species are rarely arranged in linear food chains (plants, herbivores and predators)
  - **Omnivory and indirect interactions** occur in these food webs





# Food webs

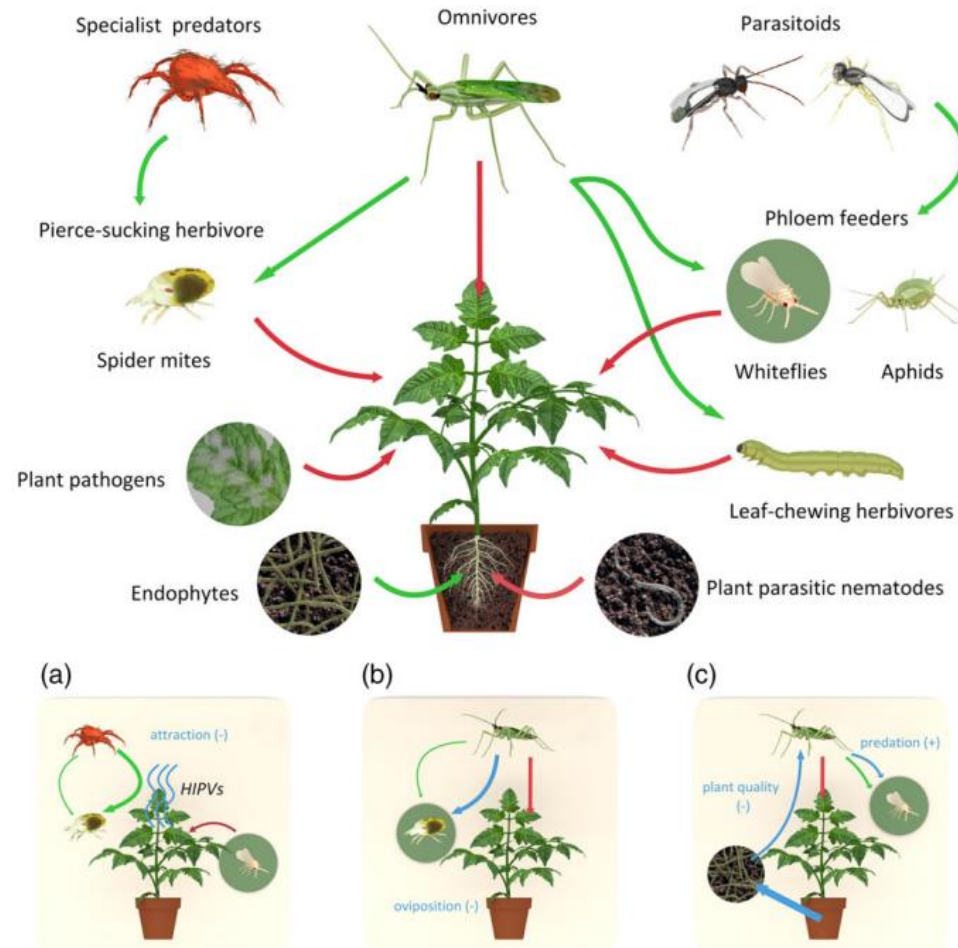
- **Consumption** (i.e. herbivory, predation and parasitism) and **competition** are considered the two most important interactions determining the **structure of communities** (Chase et al., 2002).



# Food web

## ➤ Exploitative competition

- two pest species compete for the same plant, but also affect each other's densities through **induced plant defences**
- Induced plant resistance against insects consists of **direct defences**, such as the production of toxins and feeding deterrents that reduce survival, fecundity or developmental rate, and **indirect defences** such as the production of plant volatiles that attract natural enemies



(Pappas *et al.*, 2017)

# Food webs

## ➤ Exploitative competition


- Several studies documented indirect interactions between herbivores through induced changes in plant quality

Bulletin of Entomological Research

cambridge.org/ber

Research Paper

Previous herbivory modulates aphid population growth and plant defense responses in a non-model plant, *Carthamus tinctorius* (Asteraceae)

Motahareh Amiri Domari, Seyed Mozaffar Mansouri and Mohsen Mehrparvar 



100 YEARS Journal of Ecology



Journal of Ecology 2013, 101, 410–417

doi: 10.1111/1365-2745.12041

## Herbivore-induced plant volatiles provide associational resistance against an ovipositing herbivore




Ali Zakir<sup>1\*</sup>, Medhat M. Sadek<sup>1,2</sup>, Marie Bengtsson<sup>1</sup>, Bill S. Hansson<sup>1,3</sup>, Peter Witzgall<sup>1</sup> and Peter Anderson<sup>1</sup>



Journal of Experimental Botany, Vol. 72, No. 22 pp. 7909–7926, 2021  
<https://doi.org/10.1093/jxb/erab370> Advance Access Publication 21 September 2021  
 This paper is available online free of all access charges (see <https://academic.oup.com/jxb/pages/openaccess> for further details)

RESEARCH PAPER

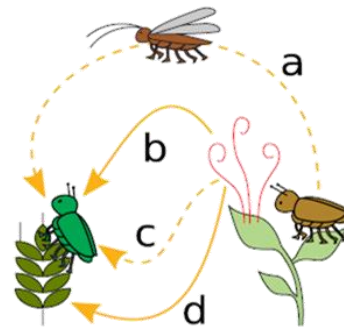
## Root infection by the nematode *Meloidogyne incognita* modulates leaf antiherbivore defenses and plant resistance to *Spodoptera exigua*

Crispus M. Mbaluto<sup>1,2,\*</sup> , Fredd Vergara<sup>1</sup>, Nicole M. van Dam<sup>1,2</sup>  and Ainhua Martínez-Medina<sup>1,2,3,\*</sup> 

<sup>1</sup> Molecular Interaction Ecology, German Center for Integrative Biodiversity Research (iDiv) Halle-Jena-Leipzig; Puschstraße 4, 04103, Leipzig, Germany

<sup>2</sup> Institute of Biodiversity, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität-Jena; Dornburgerstraße 159, 07743 Jena, Germany

<sup>3</sup> Plant-Microorganism Interaction, Institute of Natural Resources and Agrobiological of Salamanca (IRNASA-CSIC), Cordel de Merinas, 40, 37006, Salamanca, Spain




Oecologia (2022) 198:443–456  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s00442-021-05097-1>

COMMUNITY ECOLOGY – ORIGINAL RESEARCH



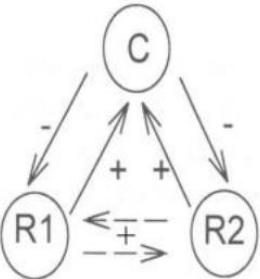
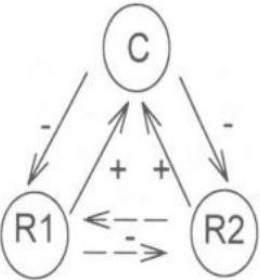
## Herbivore-induced plant volatiles, not natural enemies, mediate a positive indirect interaction between insect herbivores

E. Frago<sup>1</sup>  · R. Gols<sup>2</sup> · R. Schweiger<sup>3</sup> · C. Müller<sup>3</sup> · M. Dicke<sup>2</sup> · H. C. J. Godfray<sup>4</sup>

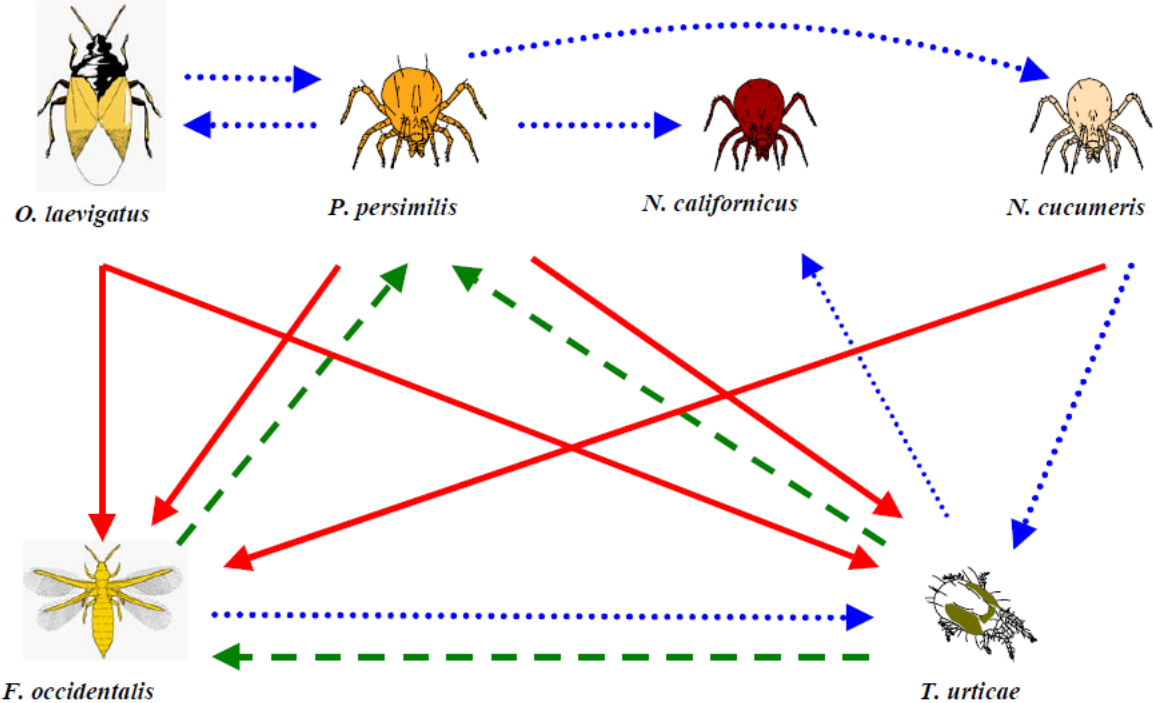


# Food webs

## ➤ apparent competition or apparent mutualism



- Apparent Competition
  - A species negatively affects another via a shared enemy (i.e. predator).
  - Interspecific competition is not required.
- Apparent Mutualism
  - A species positively affects another via a shared enemy
  - mutualism not required.



	attraction
	avoidance
	neither

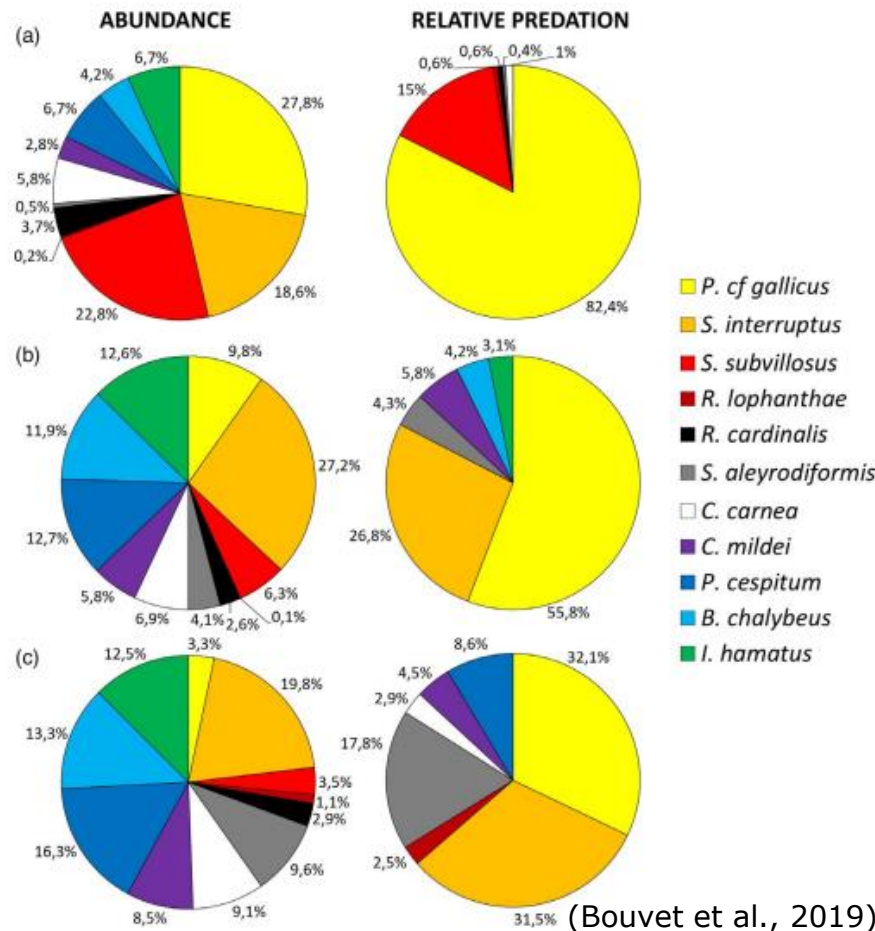
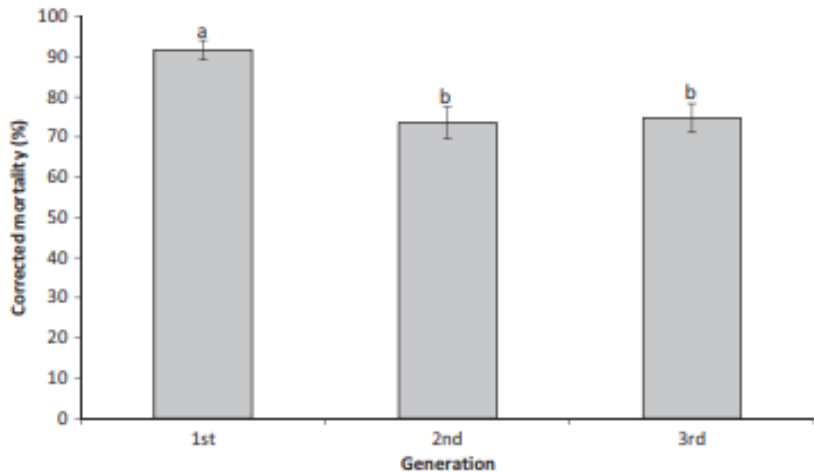
# Food webs

## ➤ apparent competition or apparent mutualism

– California Red Scale



Higher abundance of aphid predators

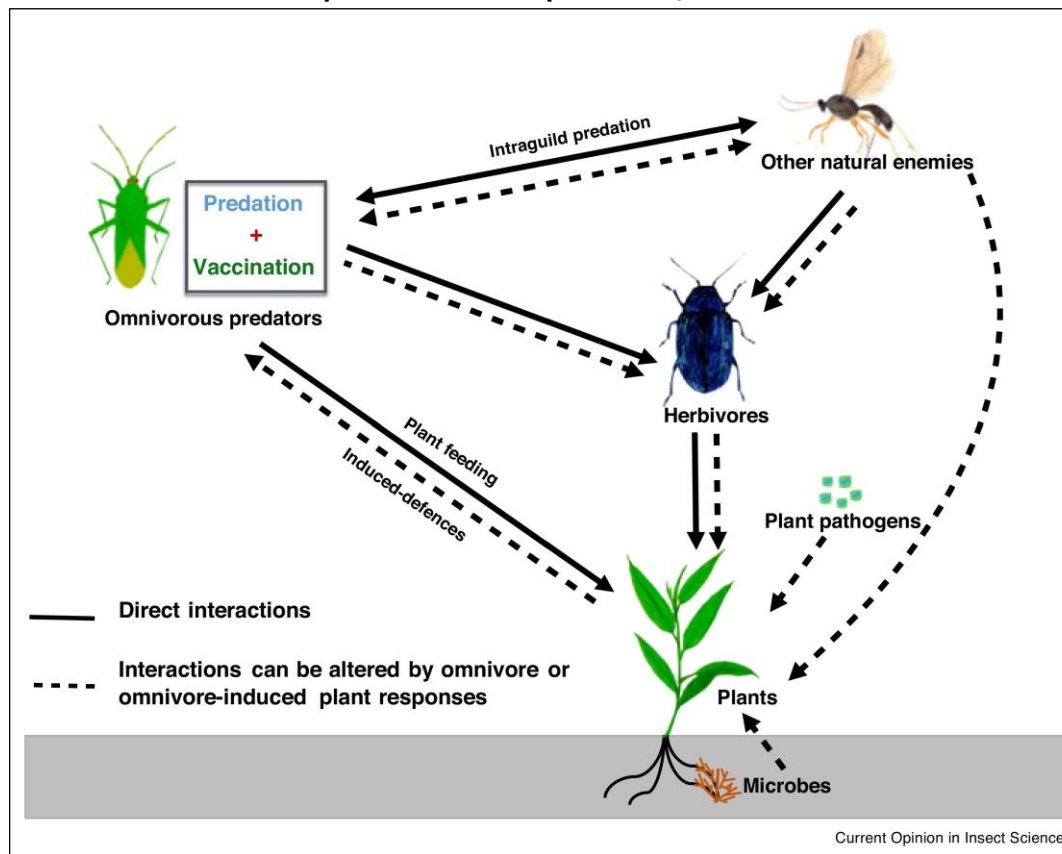


(Bouvet et al., 2019)

# Food webs

## ➤ omnivory

- consumption of species from more than one trophic level, “true” omnivores are predators that feed on both pests and plants;



(Zhang *et al.*, 2021)

Current Opinion in Insect Science



# Food webs

## ➤ Omnivory

- Plant defence induction

Journal of Pest Science (2022) 95:1343–1355  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10340-021-01463-3>

ORIGINAL PAPER



### The omnivorous predator *Macrolophus pygmaeus* induces production of plant volatiles that attract a specialist predator

Nina Xiaoning Zhang<sup>1,4</sup> · Joke Andringa<sup>1</sup> · Jitske Brouwer<sup>1</sup> · Juan M. Alba<sup>1</sup> · Ruy W. J. Kortbeek<sup>3</sup> · Gerben J. Messelink<sup>2</sup> · Arne Janssen<sup>1,5</sup>

BioControl (2021) 66:381–394  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10526-021-10077-8>



### Plant defense responses triggered by phytoseiid predatory mites (Mesostigmata: Phytoseiidae) are species-specific, depend on plant genotype and may not be related to direct plant feeding

Joaquín Cruz-Miralles · Marc Cabedo-López · Michela Guzzo · Meritxell Pérez-Hedo · Víctor Flors · Josep A. Jaques

## Research Article



Received: 8 March 2019    Revised: 13 June 2019    Accepted article published: 8 July 2019    Published online in Wiley Online Library: 14 August 2019

(wileyonlinelibrary.com) DOI 10.1002/ps.5547

### Zoophytophagous predator-induced defences restrict accumulation of the tomato spotted wilt virus

Sarra Bouagga,<sup>a</sup> Alberto Urbaneja,<sup>a</sup> Laura Depalo,<sup>b</sup> Luís Rubio<sup>a</sup> and Meritxell Pérez-Hedo<sup>a\*</sup>

frontiers  
in Plant Science

ORIGINAL RESEARCH  
 published: 02 October 2018  
 doi: 10.3389/fpls.2018.01419



### Induced Tomato Plant Resistance Against *Tetranychus urticae* Triggered by the Phytophagy of *Nesidiocoris tenuis*

Meritxell Pérez-Hedo, Ángela M. Arias-Sanguino and Alberto Urbaneja\*

Instituto Valenciano de Investigaciones Agrarias, Centro de Protección Vegetal y Biotecnología, Valencia, Spain

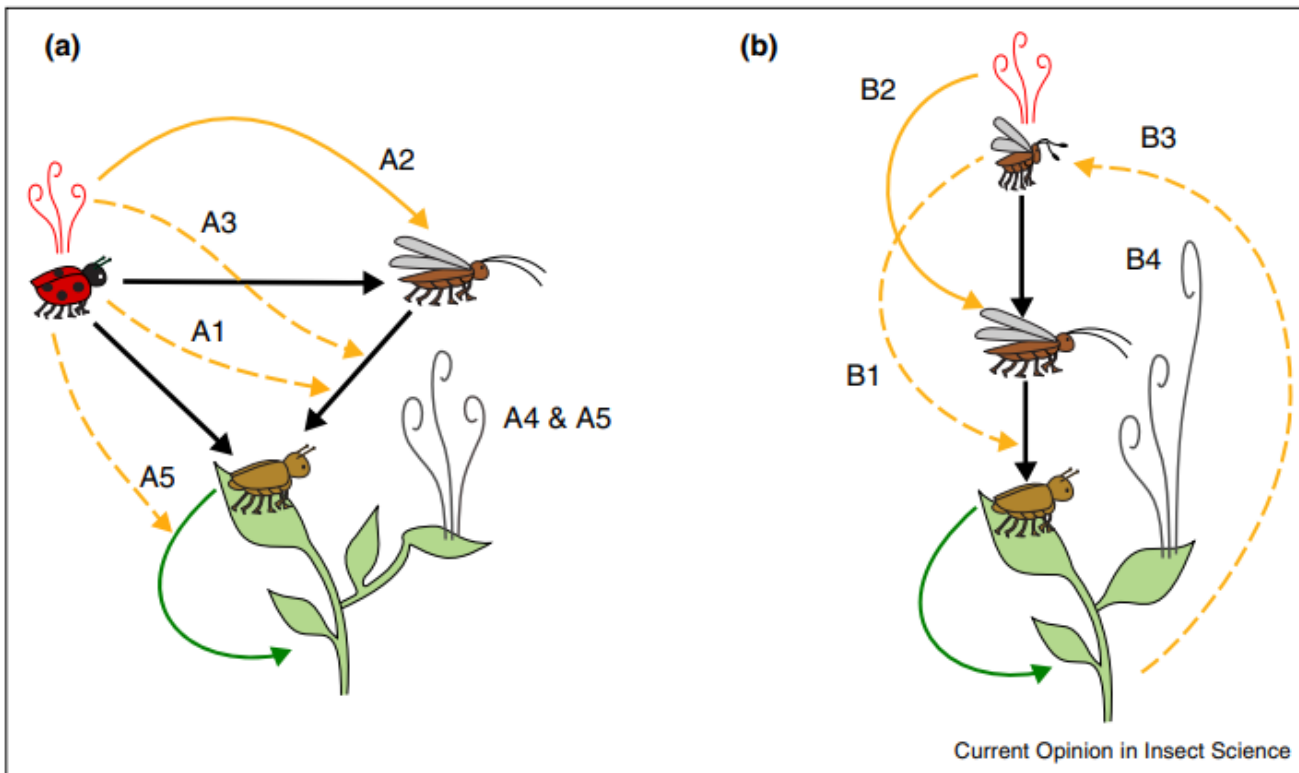
# Food webs

## ➤ intraguild predation

- predators consume another natural enemy with whom they also compete for the same pest species;

## ➤ hyperparasitism or hyperpredation

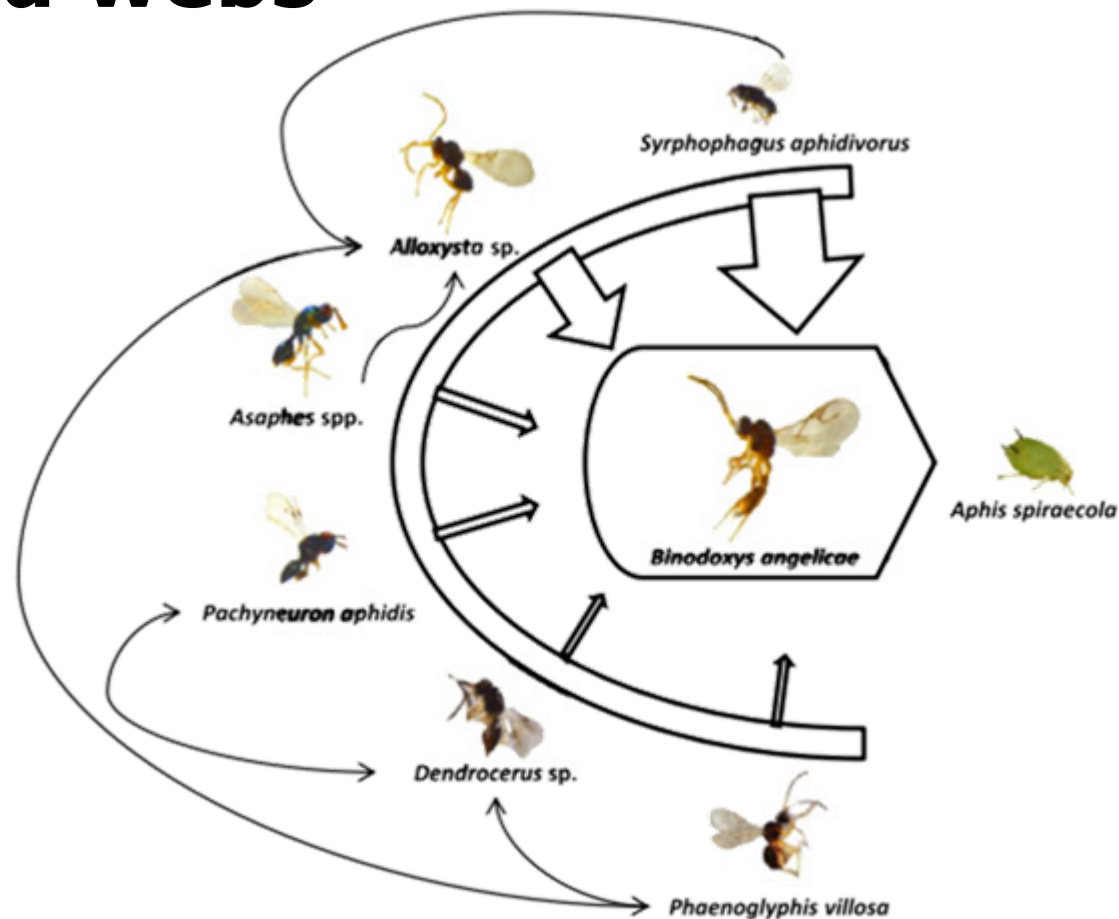
- the consumption of natural enemies by other natural enemies with whom they do not compete for shared prey, but they differ by the fact that hyperpredators can develop on alternative prey, whereas true hyperparasitoids are obligate.



(Frago, 2016)

# Food webs

- **Molecular techniques** greatly contribute to untangle the trophic links in communities where immature entomophagous species (either in the third or fourth level) develop inside the herbivore



(Gomez-Marco *et al.*, 2015)



# Food webs

- **Leafminers** are among the most **heavily parasitized** insects (Hawkins, 1994) mainly by polyphagous parasitoids (Askew, 1994)
- When invading a new region they are often quickly adopted by **native parasitoids** that may provide substantial control

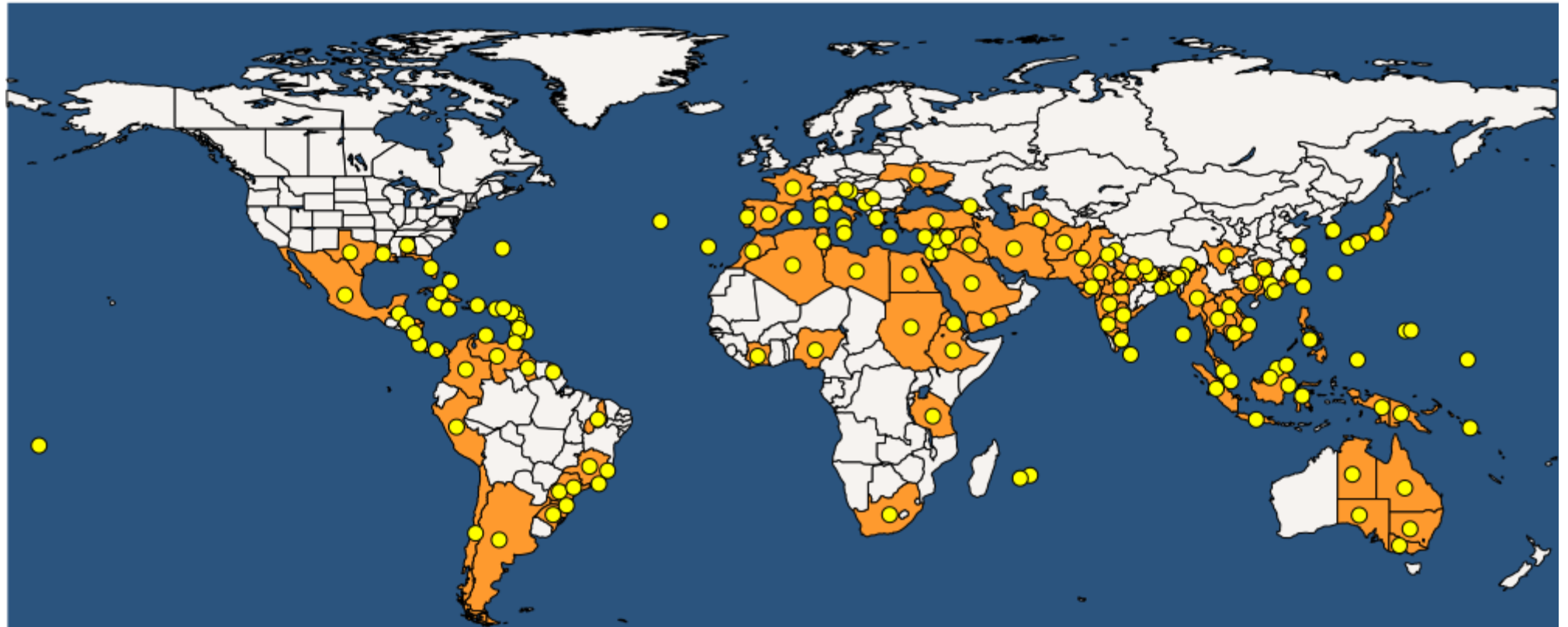


# From classical-fortuitous biocontrol...

- *Phyllocnistis citrella* Stainton (Citrus leafminer) (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae)
  - 1<sup>st</sup> reported in Italy in 1995



# Distribution



*Phyllocnistis citrella* (PHYNCI)

● Present

● Transient

2019-10-26

(c) EPPO <https://gd.eppo.int>



# Indigenous parasitoids in the Mediterranean basin

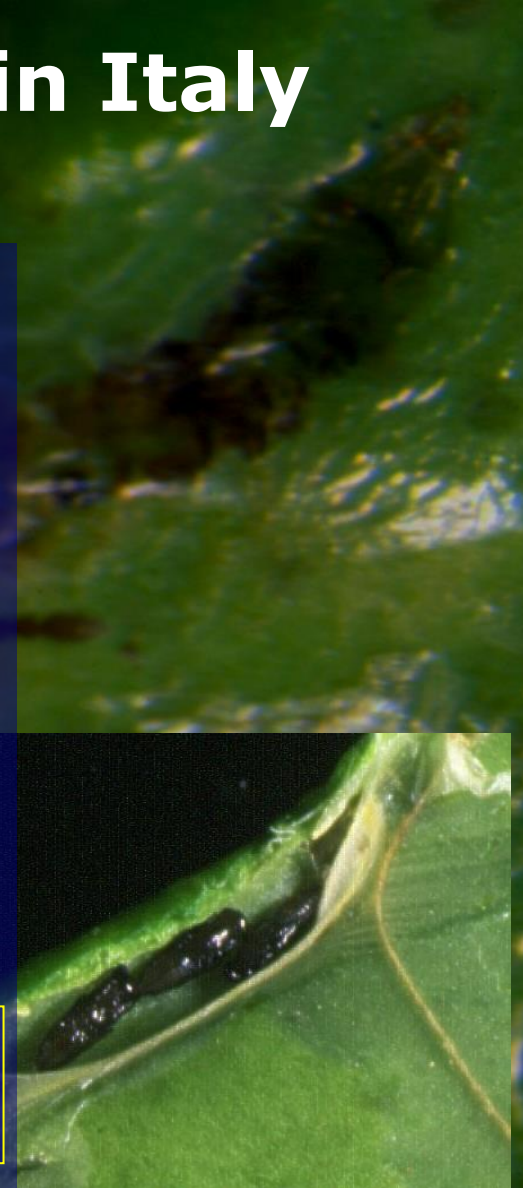
- Fam. Eulophidae
    - Subfam. Entedoninae
      - *Asecodes*
      - *Chrysocharis*
      - *Neochrysocharis*
    - Subfam. Eulophinae
      - *Cirrospilus*
      - *Diglyphus*
      - *Elasmus*
      - *Pnigalio*
      - *Ratzeburgiola*
      - *Sympiesis*
    - Subfam. Tetrastichinae
      - *Apotetrastichus*
      - *Aprostocetus*
      - *Baryscapus*
  - Fam. Pteromalidae
    - *Pteromalus*
- 



# Indigenous parasitoids in Italy

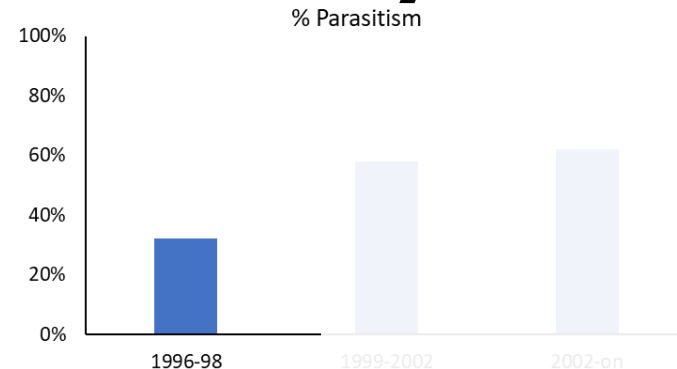
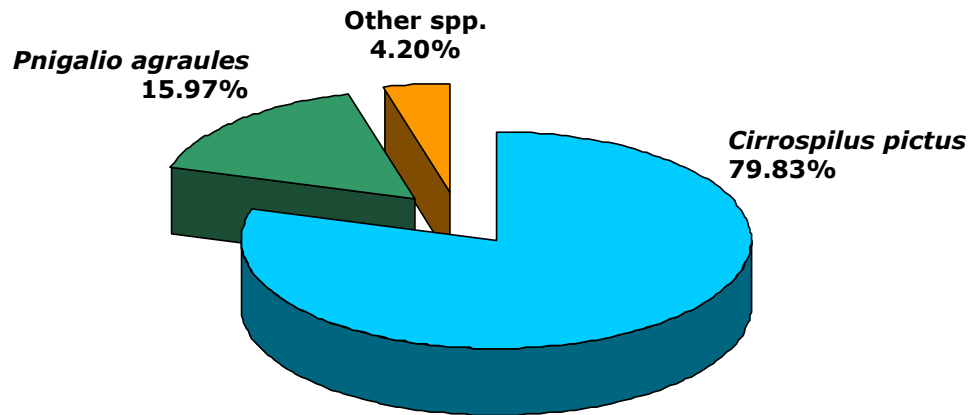
- *Cirrospilus pictus* (Nees)
- *Pnigalio agraulis* (Walker)
- *Apotetrastichus postmarginalis* (Bouček)
- *A. sericothorax* (Szelényi)
- *Asecodes delucchii* (Bouček)
- *A. erxias* (Walker)
- *Neochrysocharis formosa* (Westwood)
- *Ratzeburgiola incompleta* Bouček
- *Aprostocetus* spp.
- *Baryscapus* sp.
- *Chrysocharis pentheus* (Walker)
- *Cirrospilus diallus* Walker
- *C. vittatus* Walker
- *Diglyphus isaea* (Walker)
- *Pnigalio soemius* (Walker)

- **main**
- **occasional**
- **rare**

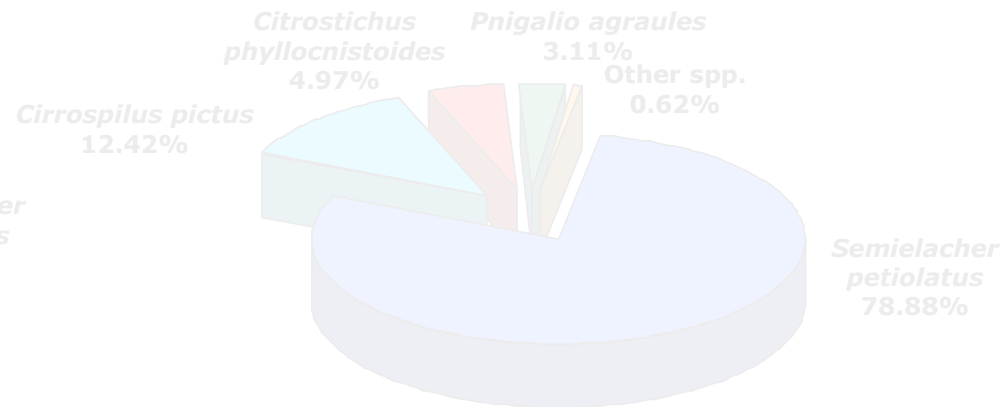


# CLM parasitic complex in Italy

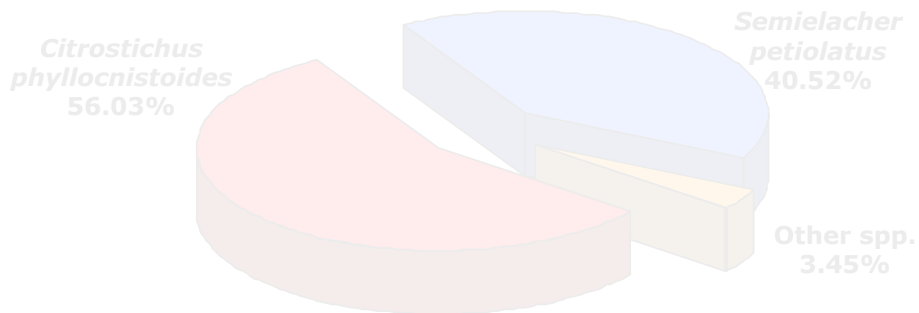
## 1996-98 Pre-introduction



## 1999-2001 Introduction

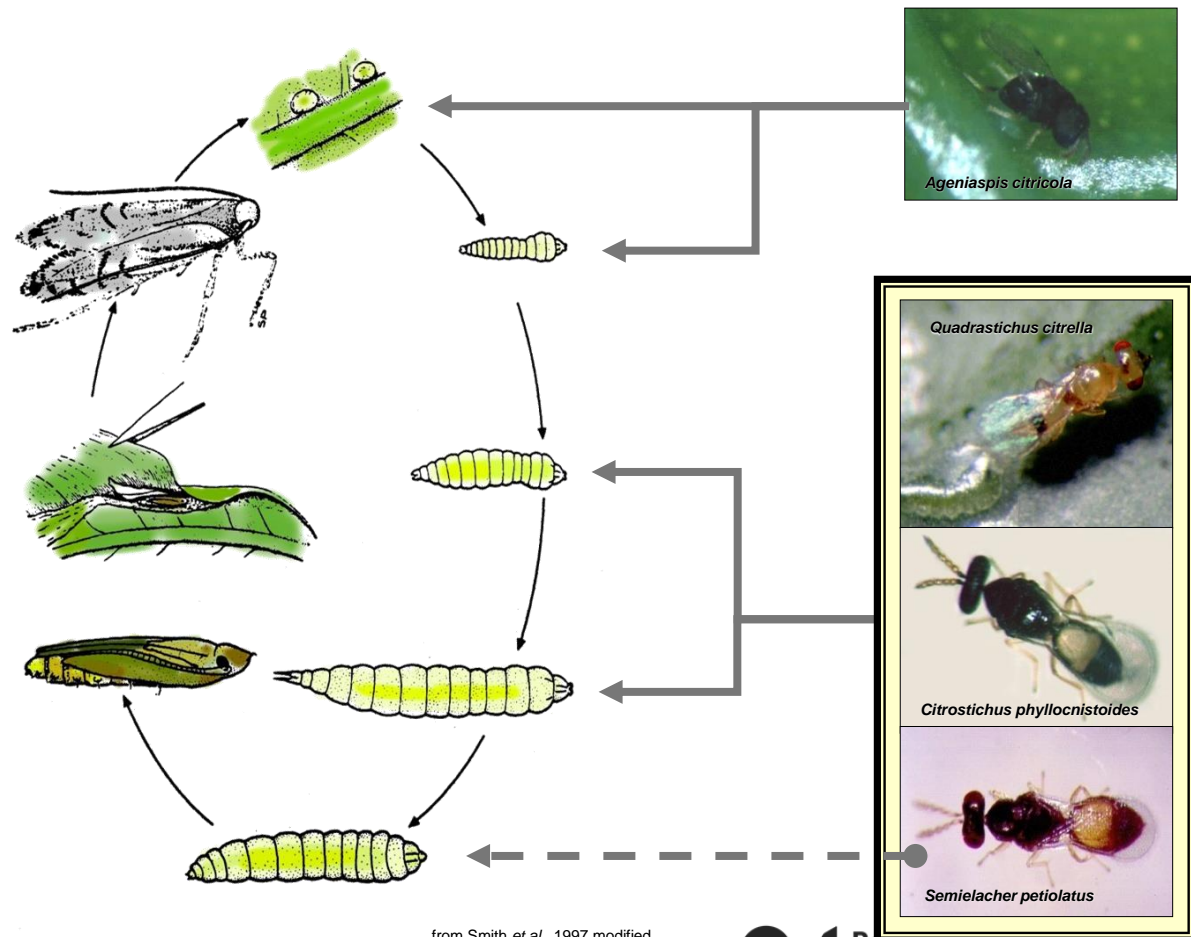


## 2001-2006 Establishment



# Exotic parasitoids introduced in Italy

- ***Ageniaspis citricola* (Encyrtidae)**
  - koinobiont, egg-L1 endoparasitoid
  - poliembryonic
- ***Quadrastichus* sp. (now *Q. citrella*) (Eulophidae)**
  - idiobiont, L2-L3 ectoparasitoid
- ***Citrostichus phyllocnistoides* (Eulophidae)**
  - idiobiont, L2-L3 ectoparasitoid
  - alternative hosts
    - Lep. Nepticulidae on Pistacia, Rubus and Salix
- ***Semiela cher petiolatus* (Eulophidae)**
  - idiobiont, L2-L4 ectoparasitoid
  - alternative hosts
    - Lepidoptera leafminers on *Parietaria*, *Rubus* and *Echium*
    - Diptera leafminers on *Urtica*, *Sonchus* and *Mercurialis*
  - **accidentally introduced - 1998**



from Smith et al., 1997 modified

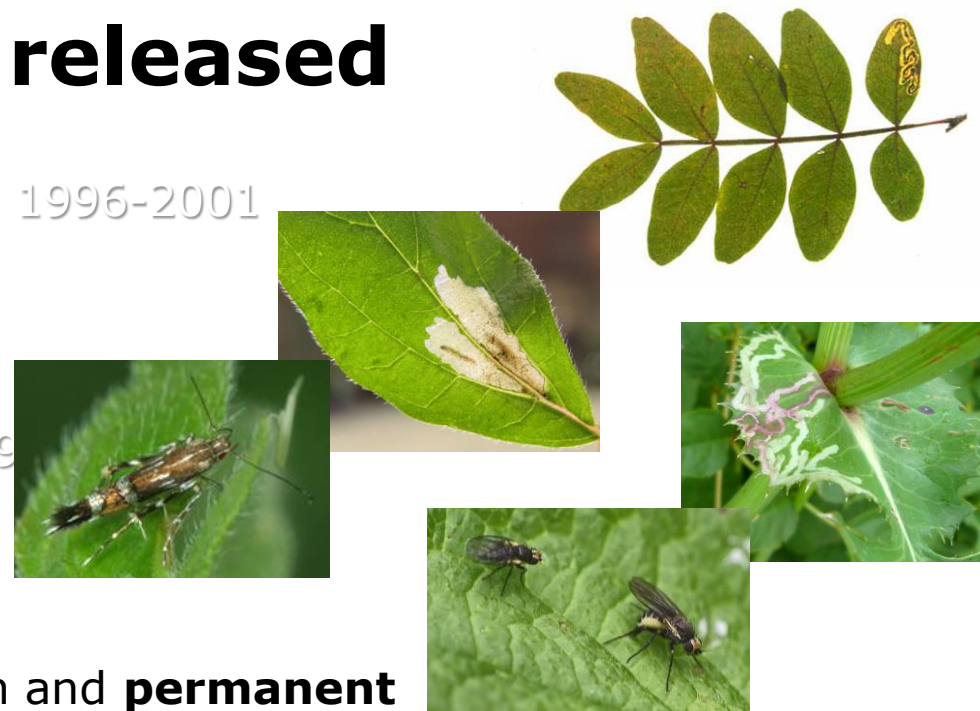
# Parasitoids released

- *Ageniaspis citricola*
  - Almost 20,000 adults released in 1996-2001
  - **No establishment**
  
- *Quadrastichus citrella*
  - About 3,000 adults released in 1996
  - **No establishment**
  
- *Semielacher petiolatus*
  - From 1999 spontaneous diffusion and **permanent establishment** in all citrus areas
  
- *Citrostichus phyllocnistoides*
  - Almost 4,000 adults released in 1999-2001
  - **Permanent establishment**



# Parasitoids released

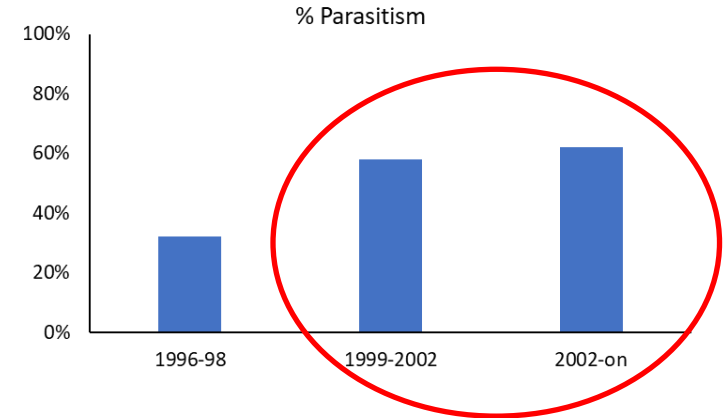
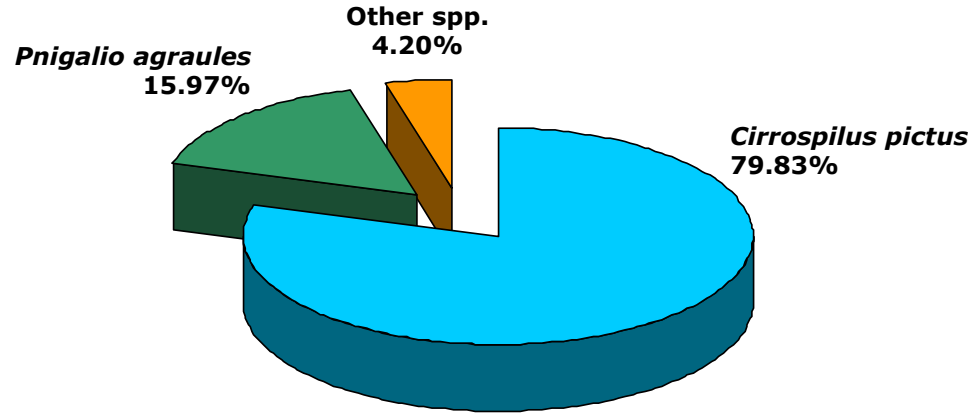
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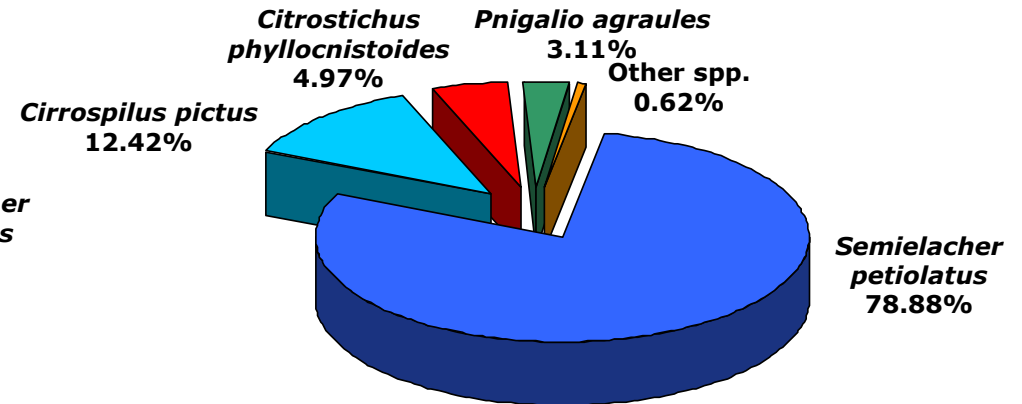
## Role of alternative hosts

# Evolution of CLM parasitic complex in Italy

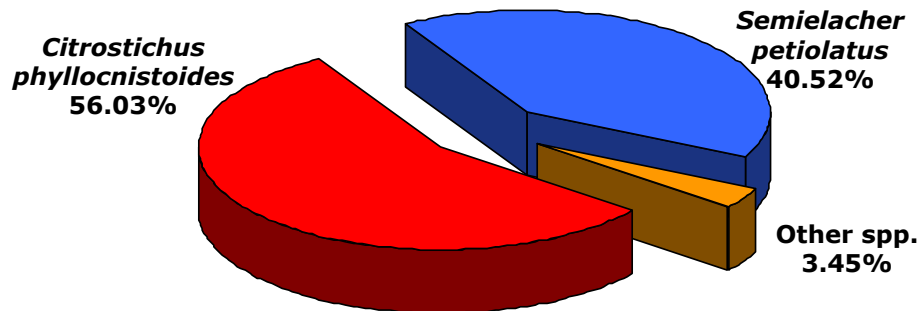
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## 1999-2001 Introduction

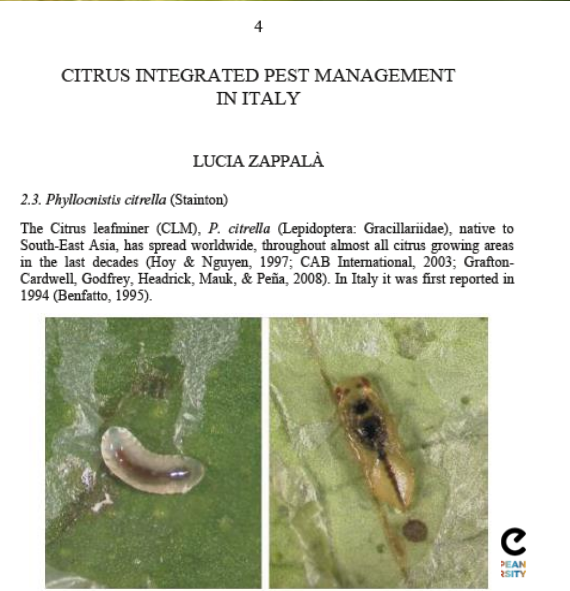
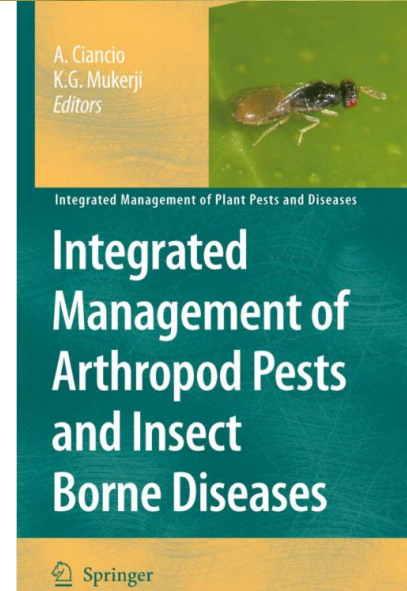
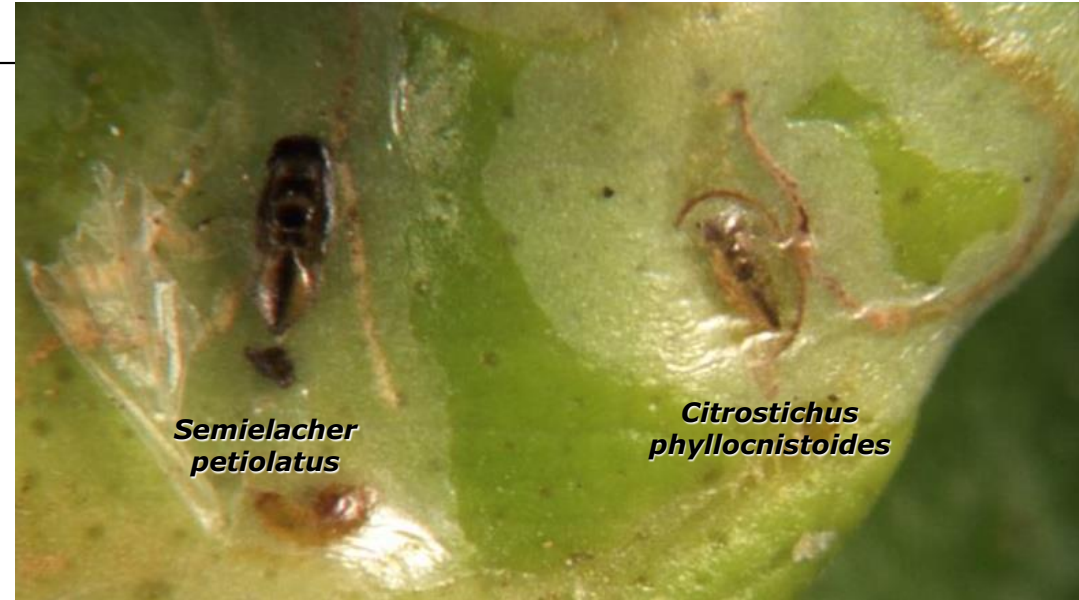


## 2001-2006 Establishment



# In conclusion

- **Successful biocontrol** in adult citrus orchards
  - High adaptability of *Semielacher petiolatus* and *Citrostichus phyllocnistoides* to the Italian climate
  - **Seasonal alternation** + “collaboration”
  - Role of the alternative hosts
- Importance of maintaining a **rich biodiversity**
  - Alternative food and shelter
- Different situation in nurseries and re-grafted or young orchards





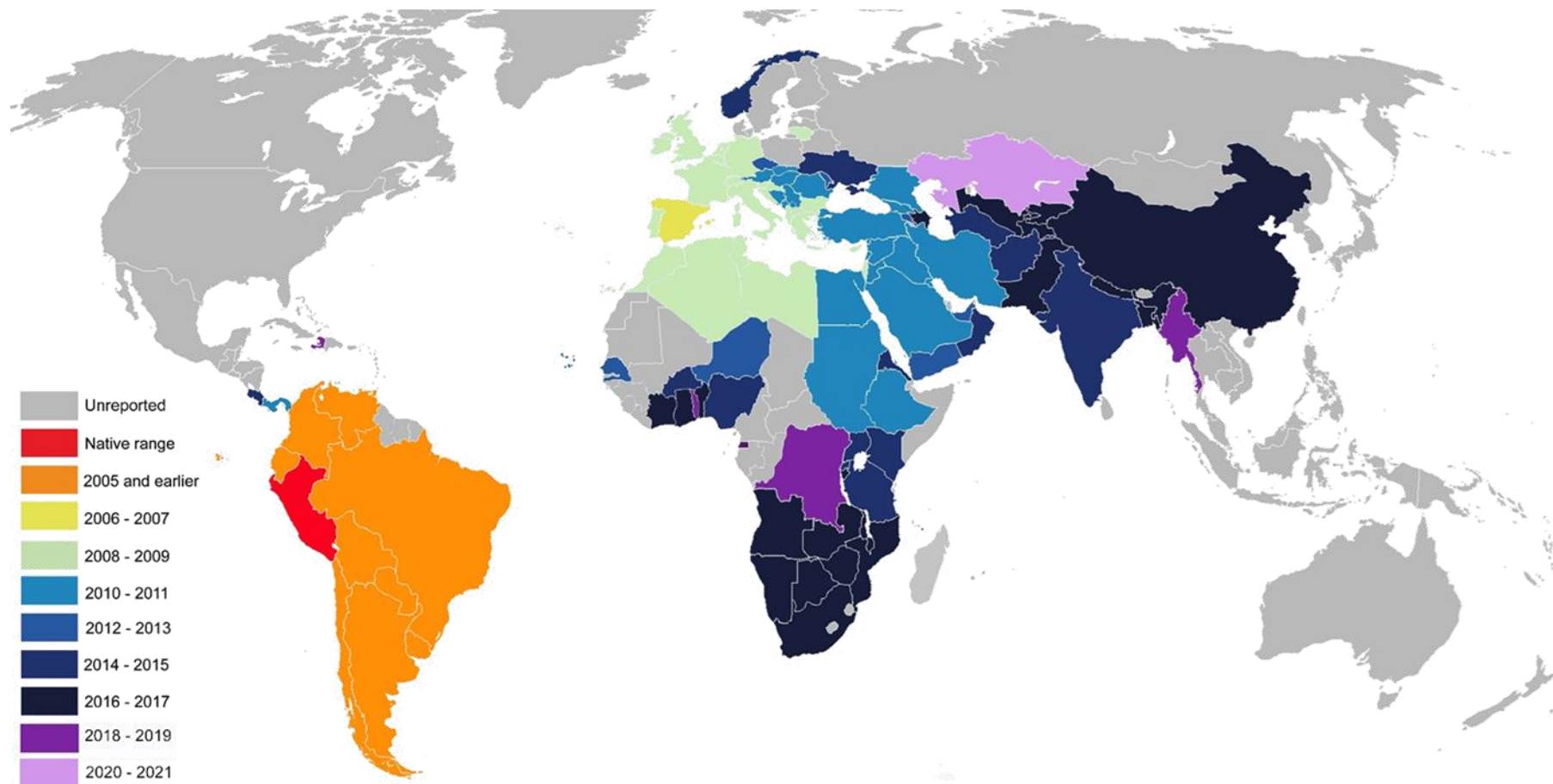
# Another example

- *Tuta absoluta* (Meyrick) (Lepidoptera: Gelechiidae)
- South American Tomato pinworm, Tomato borer, tomato leafminer

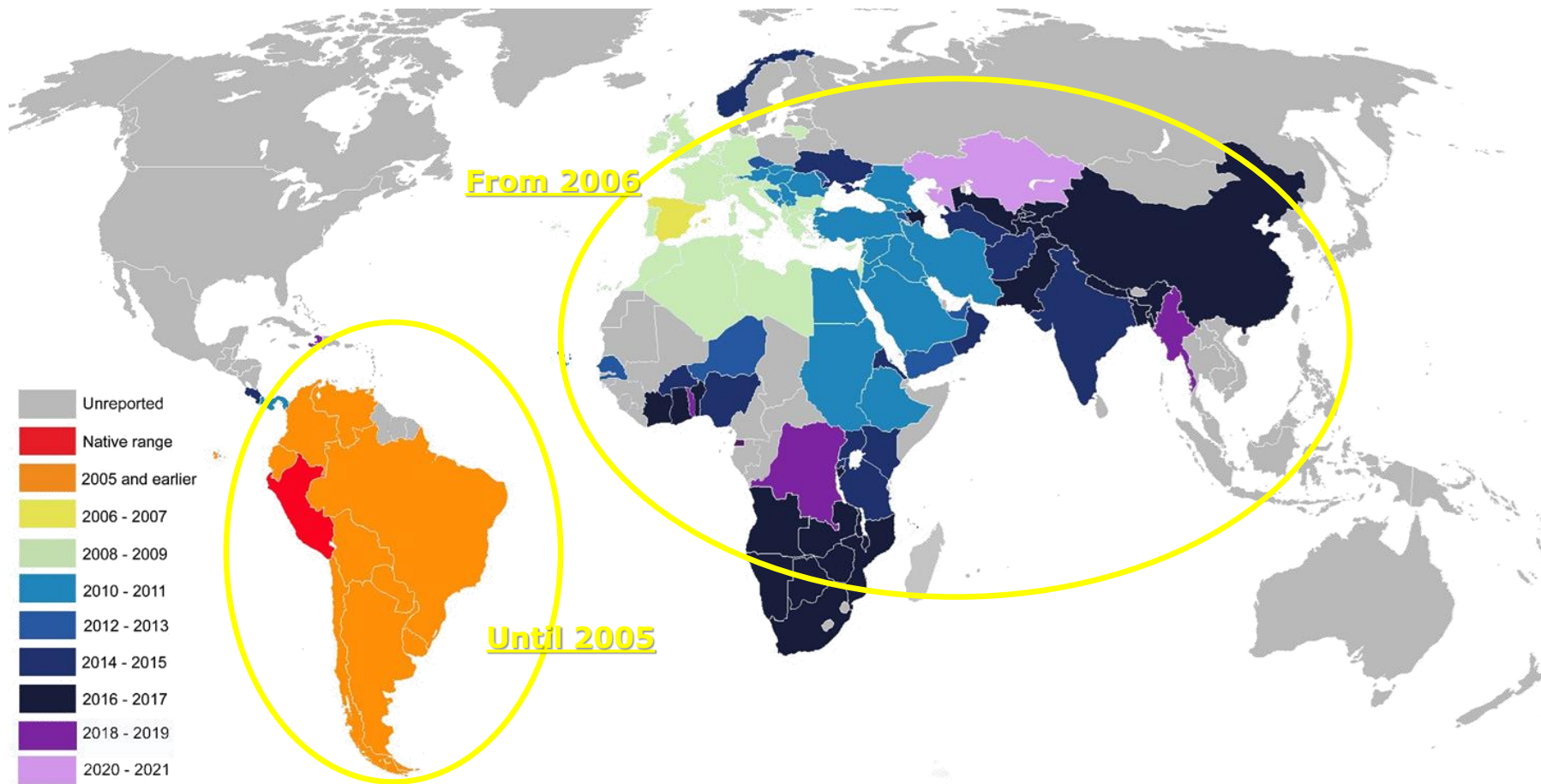




# Distribution



# Distribution



# Biology

- High reproductive potential
  - >150 eggs/female
- No diapause
- Wide host range
  - Crop and non-crop plants
- Pupates also in the soil
- Up to 13 generations/year
- Highly mobile adults



# Damage

- Leaves, shoots, fruit





# Parasitoid community composition

Bulletin of Insectology 65 (1): 51-61, 2012  
ISSN 1721-8861

➤ In Italy

- 23 parasitoid species belonging to 12 genera and 6 families were collected

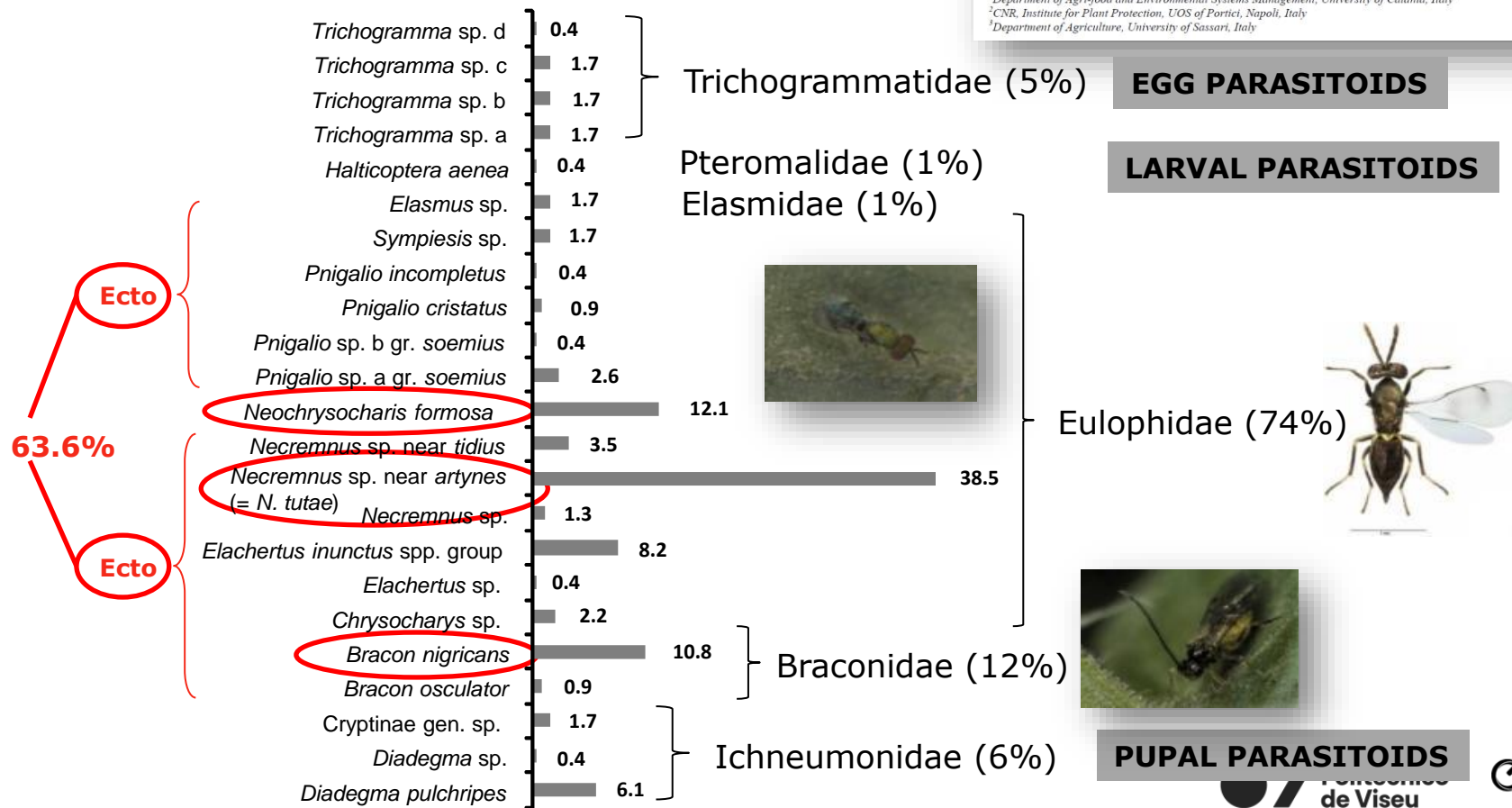
## Recruitment of native parasitoids by the exotic pest *Tuta absoluta* in Southern Italy

Lucia ZAPPALÀ<sup>1</sup>, Umberto BERNARDO<sup>2</sup>, Antonio BIONDI<sup>1</sup>, Arturo Cocco<sup>3</sup>, Salvatore DELIPERI<sup>3</sup>, Gavino DELRIO<sup>3</sup>, Massimo GIORGINI<sup>2</sup>, Paolo PEDATA<sup>2</sup>, Carmelo RAPISARDA<sup>1</sup>, Giovanna TROPEA GARZIA<sup>1</sup>, Gaetano SISCARO<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Department of Agri-food and Environmental Systems Management, University of Catania, Italy

<sup>2</sup>CNR, Institute for Plant Protection, UOS of Portici, Napoli, Italy

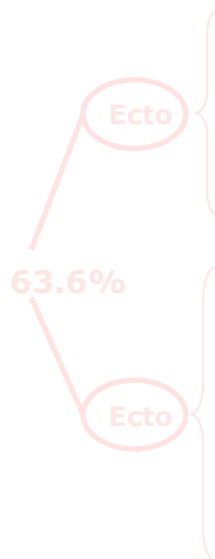
<sup>3</sup>Department of Agriculture, University of Sassari, Italy





# Parasitoid community composition

- In Europe and the Med basin
  - 23 parasitoid species belonging to 12 genera
  - 84 arthropod species
    - 80% parasitoids (>50 species)
    - 20% predators (18 species)



Trichogramma sp. c 1.7  
 Trichogramma sp. b 1.7  
 Trichogramma sp. a 1.7  
 Halticoptera aenea  
 Elasmus sp.  
 Sympiesis sp.  
 Pnigalio incompletus  
 Pnigalio cristatus  
 Pnigalio sp. b gr. soemius  
 Pnigalio sp. a gr. soemius  
 Neochrysocharis formosa  
 Necremnus sp. near tidius  
 Necremnus sp. near artynes  
 (= N. tutae)  
 Necremnus sp.  
 Elachertus inunctus spp. group  
 Elachertus sp.  
 Chrysocharys sp.  
 Bracon nigricans  
 Bracon osculator  
 Cryptinae gen. sp.  
 Diadegma sp.  
 Diadegma pulchripes

Trichogrammatidae (5%)

EGG PARASITOIDS

Pteromalidae (1%)

LARVAL PARASITOIDS

J Pest Sci (2013) 86:635–647  
DOI 10.1007/s10340-013-0531-9

RAPID COMMUNICATION

## Natural enemies of the South American moth, *Tuta absoluta*, in Europe, North Africa and Middle East, and their potential use in pest control strategies

Lucia Zappalà · Antonio Biondi · Alberto Alma · Ibrahim J. Al-Jboory · Judit Arnó · Ahmet Bayram · Anaïs Chailleux · Ashraf El-Arnaouty · Dan Gerling · Yamina Guenaoui · Liora Shaltiel-Harpaz · Gaetano Siscaro · Menelaos Stavrinides · Luciana Tavella · Rosa Vercher Aznar · Alberto Urbaneja · Nicolas Desneux

1.3

BIOCONTROL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
<https://doi.org/10.1080/09583157.2019.1572711>



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## Natural enemies of *Tuta absoluta* in the Mediterranean basin, Europe and South America

Chiara Ferracini<sup>a</sup>, Vanda H. P. Bueno<sup>b</sup>, Maria Luisa Dindo<sup>c</sup>, Barbara L. Ingegno<sup>a</sup>, María G. Luna<sup>d,e</sup>, Nadia G. Salas Gervasio<sup>d,e</sup>, Norma E. Sánchez<sup>d</sup>, Gaetano Siscaro<sup>f</sup>, Joop C. van Lenteren<sup>b,g</sup>, Lucia Zappalà<sup>f</sup> and Luciana Tavella<sup>a</sup>

Recruitment of native parasitoids by the exotic pest *Tuta absoluta* in Southern Italy

Lucia ZAPPALÀ<sup>1</sup>, Umberto BERNARDO<sup>2</sup>, Antonio BIONDI<sup>1</sup>, Arturo COCCO<sup>3</sup>, Salvatore DELPERI<sup>3</sup>, Gavino DELRIO<sup>3</sup>, Massimo GIORGINI<sup>4</sup>, Paolo PEDATA<sup>5</sup>, Carmelo RAPISARDA<sup>6</sup>, Giovanna TROPEA GARZIA<sup>1</sup>, Gaetano SISCARO<sup>7</sup>

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TOIDS  
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# Generalist predators

- Prominent role in agricultural pest management
- Some species can feed also on various non-pest substrates (**omnivorous**)
- **Alternative host plants** can play a relevant ecological role





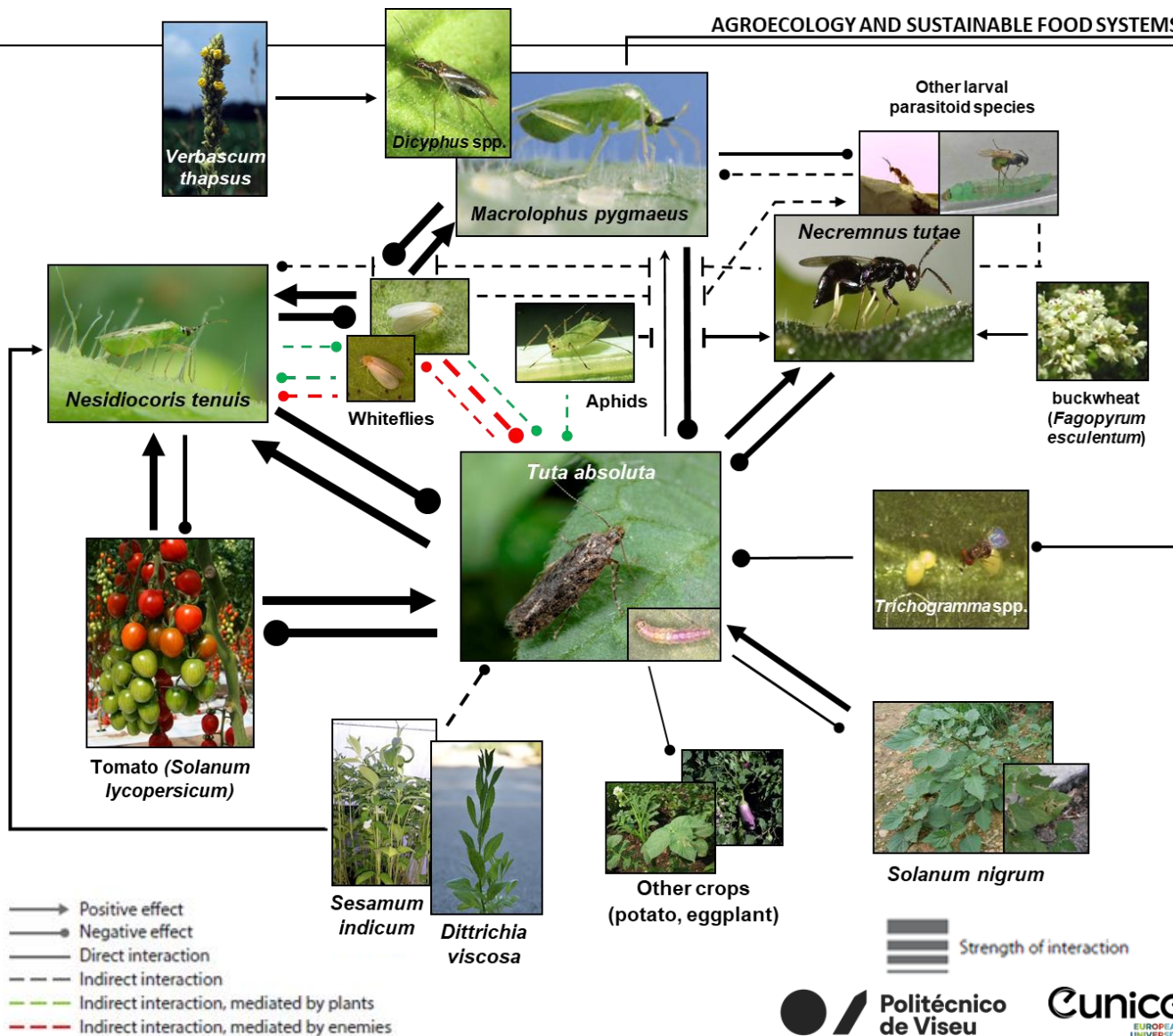
# Augmentative and conservation biocontrol

- Enhancing the role of indigenous natural enemies
- Inoculative releases



# Food web

- Biological interactions among components inside and outside the agroecosystem

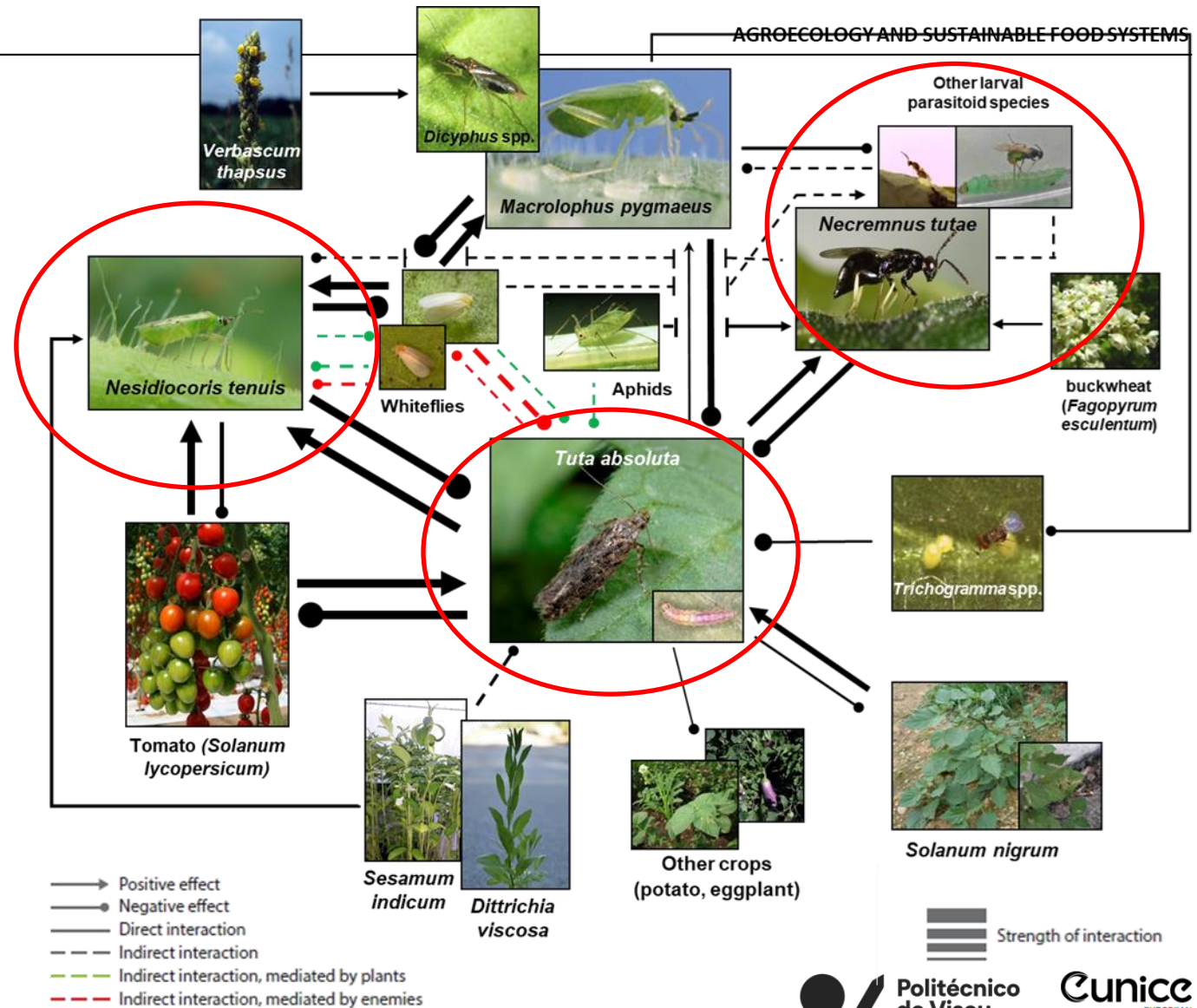


(modified from Biondi *et al.*, 2018)



# Food web

- Biological interactions among components inside and outside the agroecosystem







# Intraguild interactions

- *N. tenuis* feeds
  - on *T. absoluta* larvae parasitized by *N. tutae* and *B. nigricans* (kleptoparasitism) - scavenging
  - on *B. nigricans* (less) and on *N. tutae* (more) larvae (Intraguild predation)

Research Article

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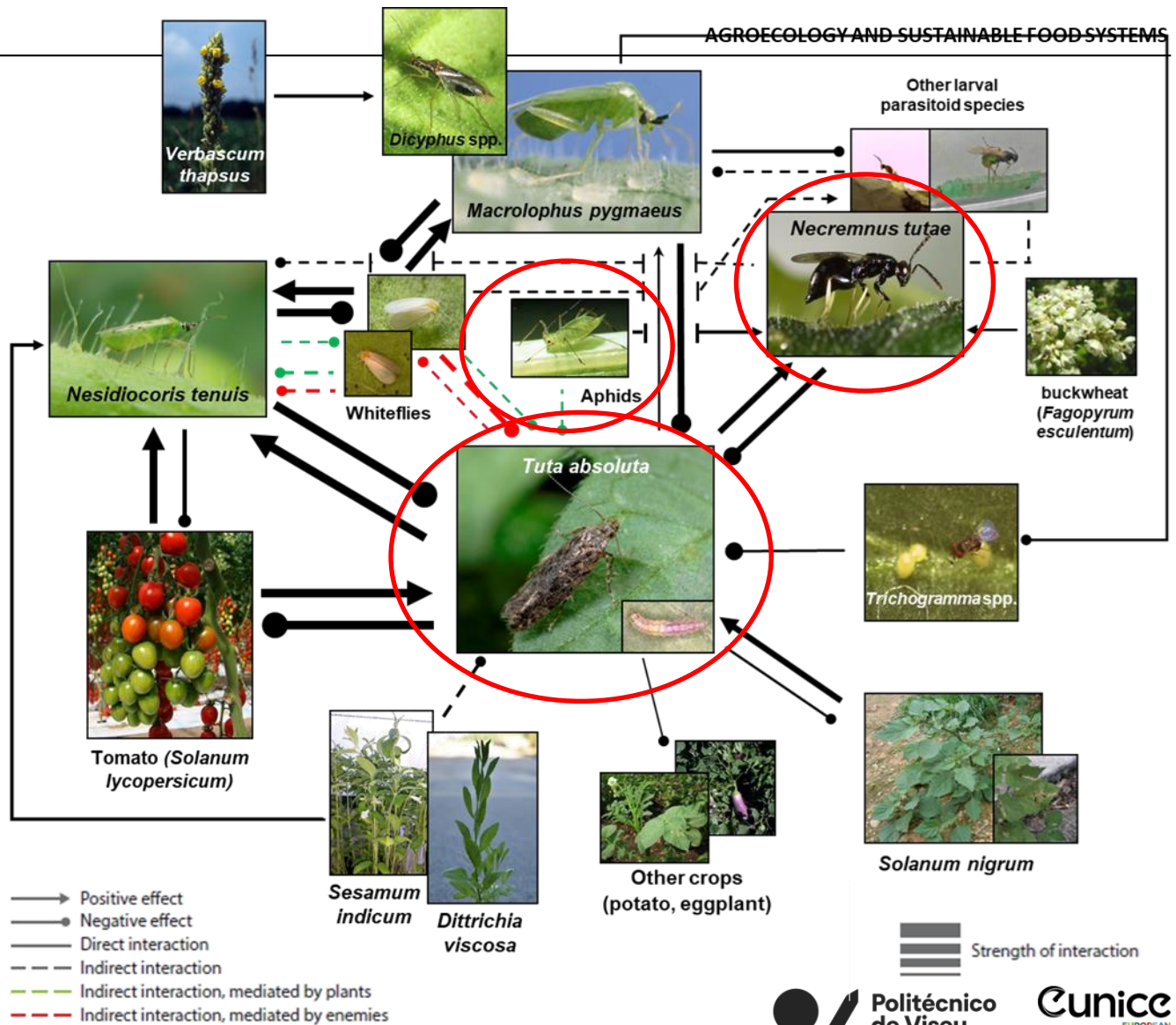
(wileyonlinelibrary.com) DOI 10.1002/ps.4562

**Insights into food webs associated with the South American tomato pinworm**

Mario Naselli,<sup>a</sup> Antonio Biondi,<sup>a</sup> Giovanna Tropea Garzia,<sup>a</sup> Nicolas Desneux,<sup>b</sup> Agatino Russo,<sup>a</sup> Gaetano Siscaro<sup>a</sup> and Lucia Zappalà<sup>a\*</sup>

# Food web

- Biological interactions among components inside and outside the agroecosystem



# Shared food source

- Aphid honeydew increases *N. tutae* longevity
- Negative effects on *T. absoluta* by aphid populations
  - resource competition
  - induction of plant defenses




Journal of Pest Science (2020) 93:207–218  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10340-019-01167-9>

ORIGINAL PAPER



Impact of a shared sugar food source on biological control of *Tuta absoluta* by the parasitoid *Necremnus tutae*

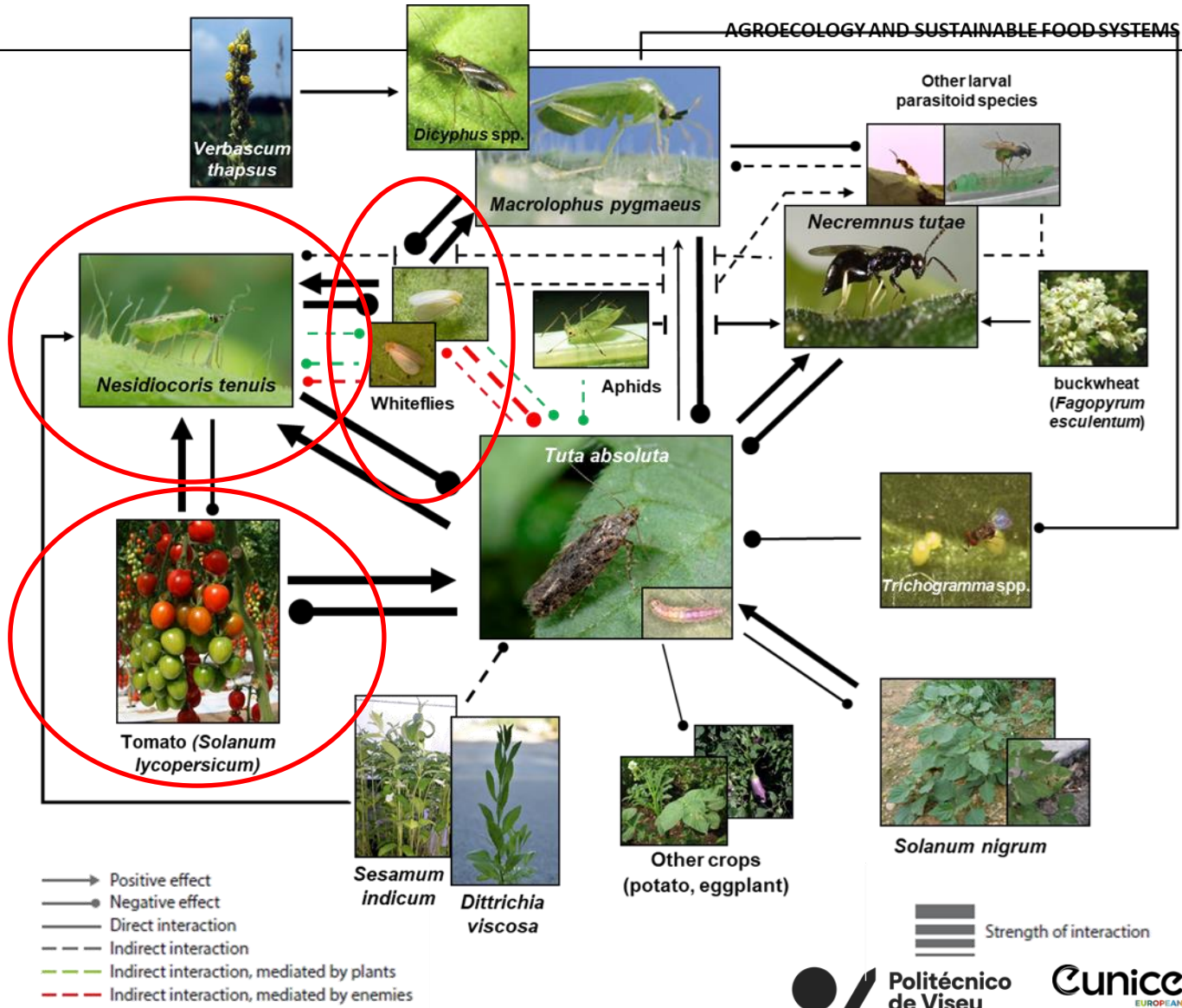
Mateus Ribeiro de Campos<sup>1</sup>  · Lucie S. Monticelli<sup>1</sup> · Philippe Béarez<sup>1</sup> · Edwige Amiens-Desneux<sup>1</sup> · Yusha Wang<sup>1</sup> · Anne-Violette Lavoir<sup>1</sup> · Lucia Zappalà<sup>2</sup> · Antonio Biondi<sup>2</sup> · Nicolas Desneux<sup>1</sup>





# Food web

➤ Biological interactions among components inside and outside the agroecosystem







# Induced plant defenses

- *N. tenuis* induces direct and indirect plant defenses in tomato

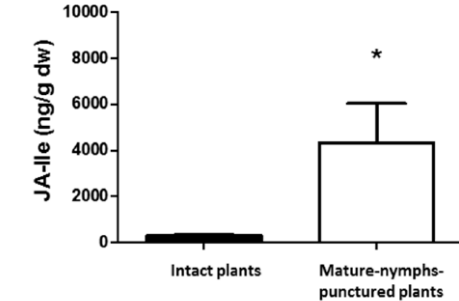
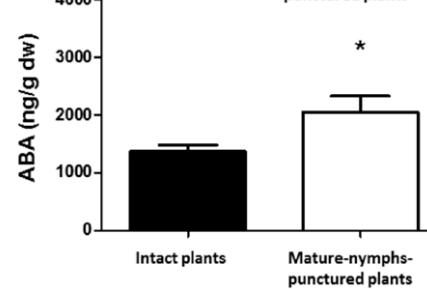
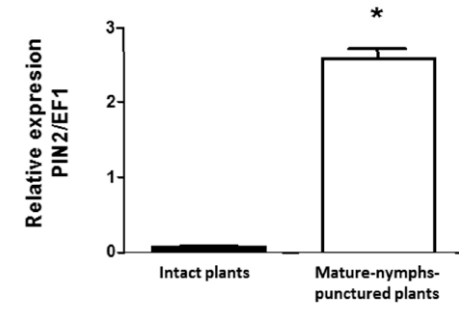
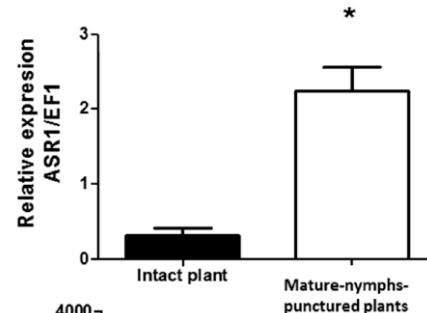
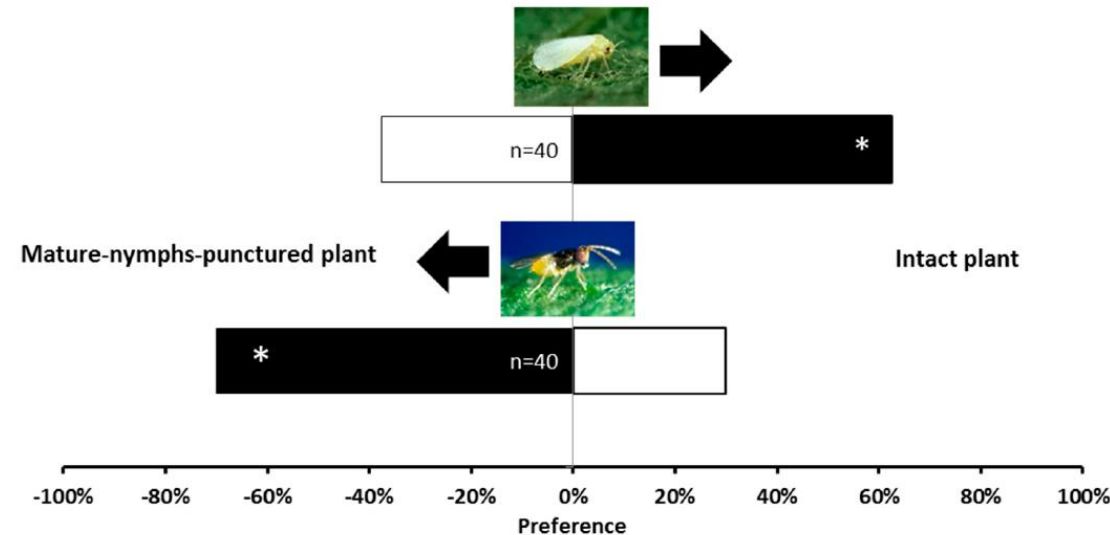


International Journal of  
*Molecular Sciences*

Article

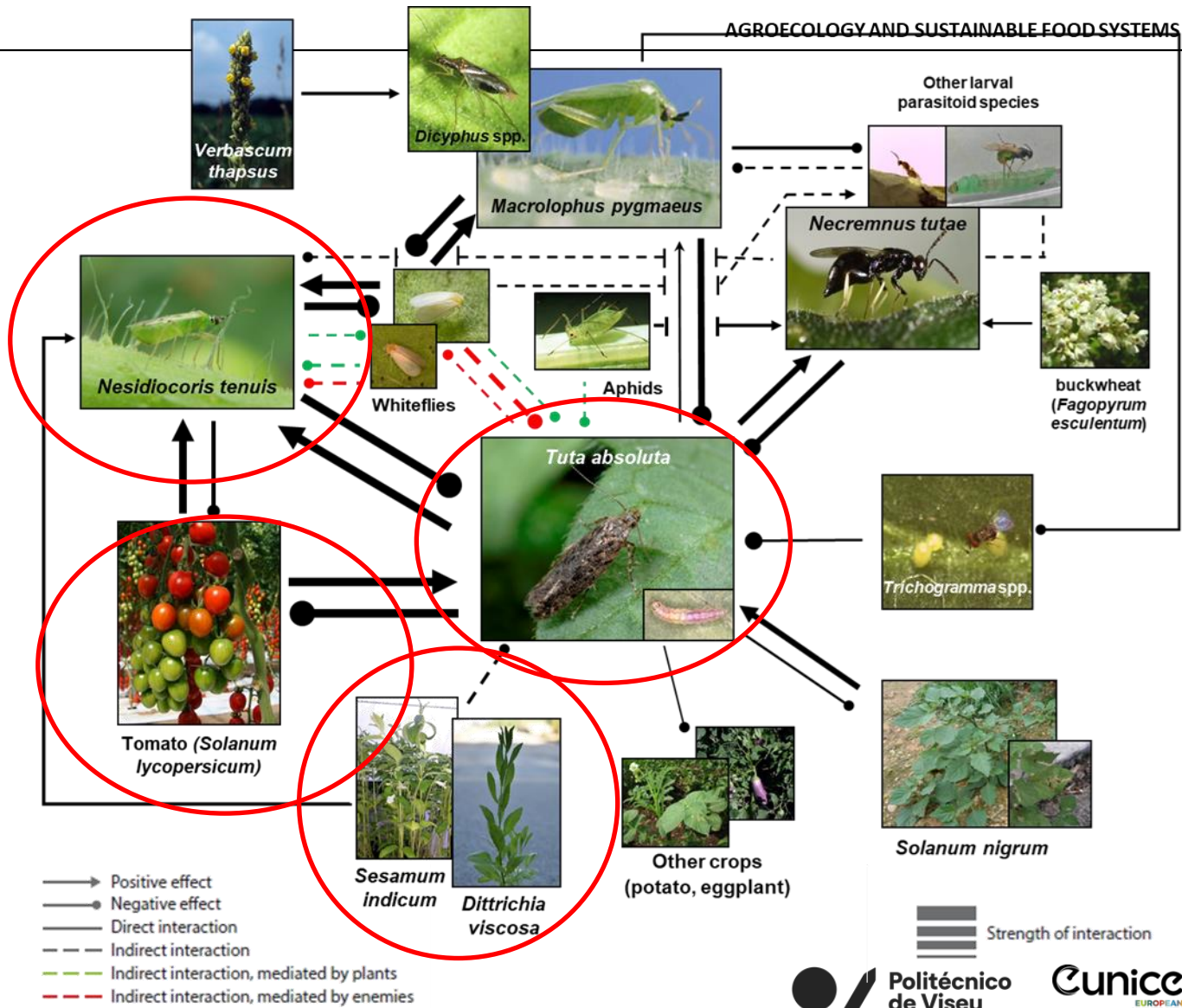
## Stage-Related Defense Response Induction in Tomato Plants by *Nesidiocoris tenuis*

Mario Naselli<sup>1</sup>, Alberto Urbaneja<sup>2</sup>, Gaetano Siscaro<sup>1</sup>, Josep A. Jaques<sup>3</sup>, Lucia Zappalà<sup>1</sup>, Víctor Flors<sup>3</sup> and Meritxell Pérez-Hedo<sup>2,3,\*</sup>



# Food web

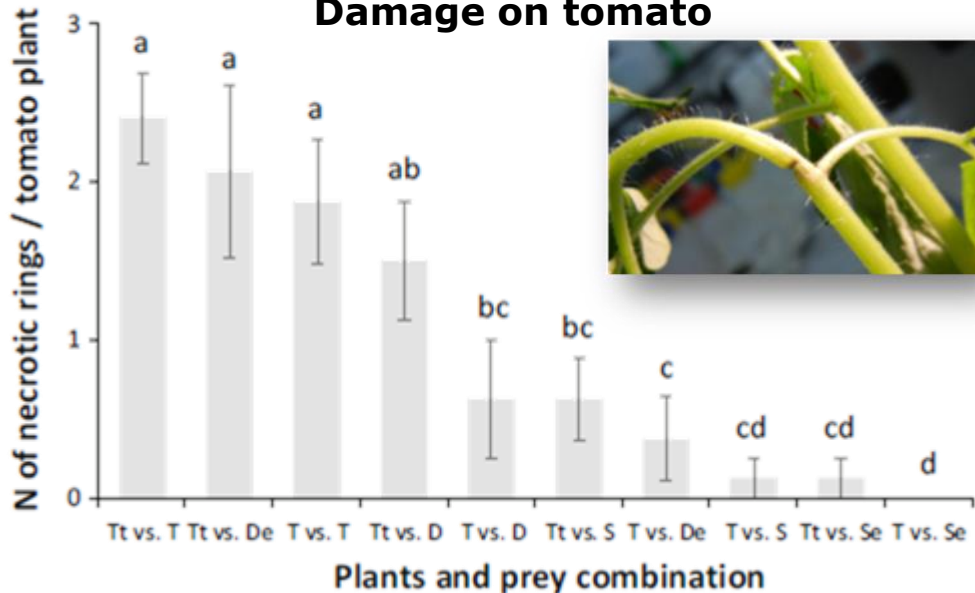
➤ Biological interactions among components inside and outside the agroecosystem



# Companion plants

- *Sesamum indicum*
  - more attractive
  - it reduced *N. tenuis* damage, but not its predatory activity
  - it is a suitable host plant for its development and oviposition without any additional prey

**Damage on tomato**



BioControl (2016) 61:79–90  
DOI 10.1007/s10526-015-9700-5



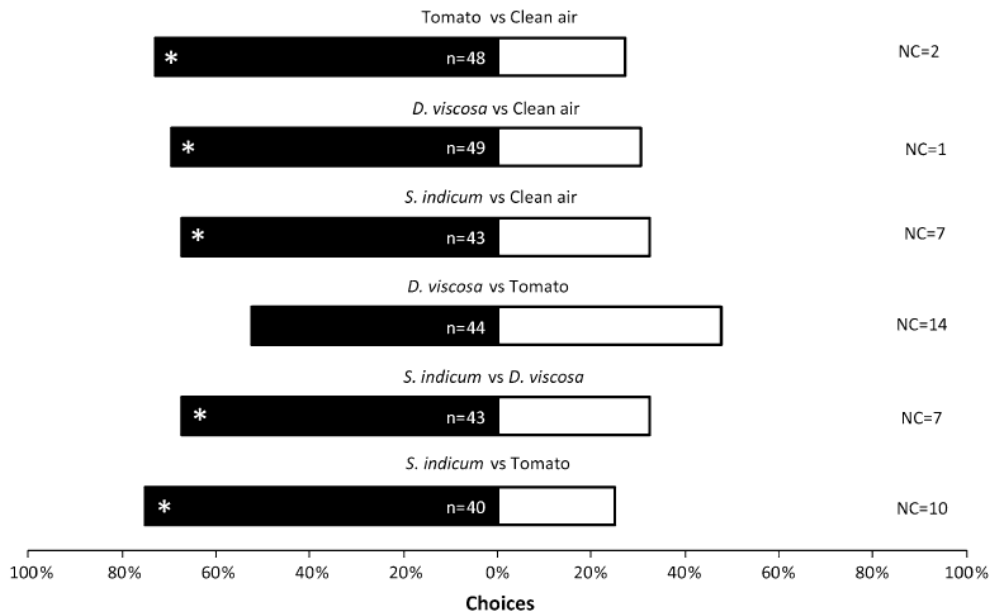
## Can alternative host plant and prey affect phytophagy and biological control by the zoophytophagous mirid *Nesidiocoris tenuis*?

Antonio Biondi · Lucia Zappalà · Angelo Di Mauro ·  
Giovanna Tropea Garzia · Agatino Russo ·  
Nicolas Desneux · Gaetano Siscaro

	Tomato	<i>Dittrichia viscosa</i>	<i>Sesamum indicum</i>
Nymph survival	0.00% ± 0.00 a	0.00% ± 0.00 a	99.6% ± 1.15 b
Nymph development time (days)			
females	-	-	14.2 ± 0.65 a
males	-	-	11.4 ± 0.67 b
Lifetime fertility (n. nymphs/female)	2.03 ± 0.62 a	2.45 ± 0.74 a	61.05 ± 5.76 b
Daily fertility (n. nymphs/female/day)	0.22 ± 0.06 a	0.21 ± 0.06 a	1.43 ± 0.21 b
Longevity (days)			
females	8.92 ± 0.62 a	11.15 ± 0.77 a	48.20 ± 3.39 b
males	9.81 ± 0.68 a	7.00 ± 0.43 a	60.25 ± 4.24 b

# Companion plants

- Olfactory trials
  - significantly higher attractivity of *S. indicum* both compared to *D. viscosa* and to tomato
  - both tested pest instars did not significantly increase the attractivity of tomato plants
  - prevalent phytophagous behavior?

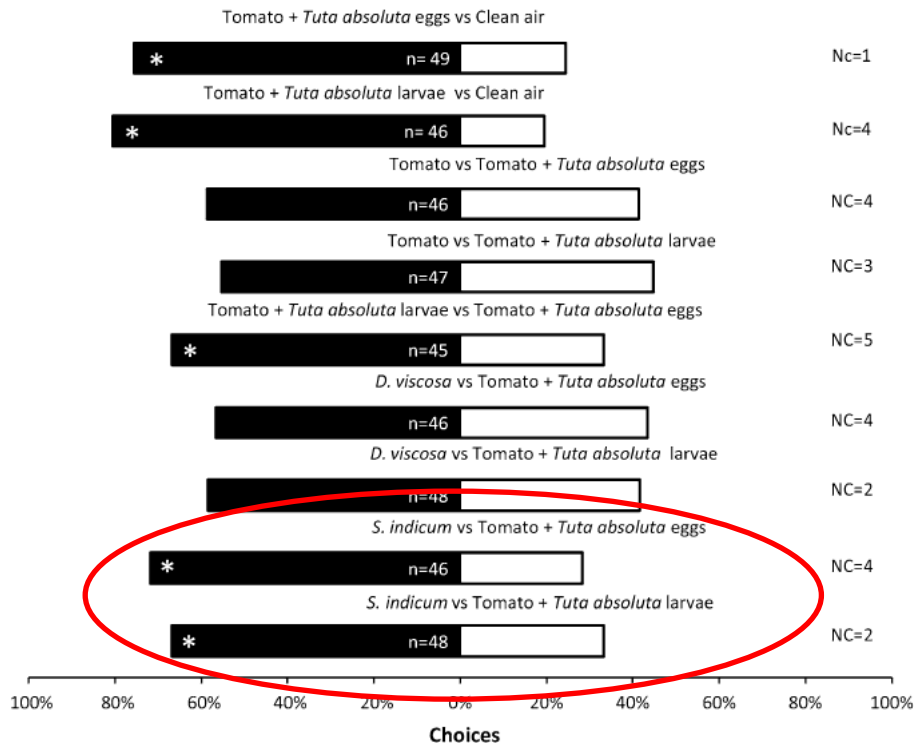


Arthropod-Plant Interactions (2017) 11:121–131  
 DOI 10.1007/s11829-016-9481-5

ORIGINAL PAPER

## Olfactory response of the zoophytophagous mirid *Nesidiocoris tenuis* to tomato and alternative host plants

Mario Naselli<sup>1</sup> · Lucia Zappalà<sup>1</sup> · Antonio Gugliuzzo<sup>1</sup> · Giovanna Tropea Garzia<sup>1</sup> · Antonio Biondi<sup>1</sup> · Carmelo Rapisarda<sup>1</sup> · Fabrizio Cincotta<sup>2</sup> · Concetta Conduro<sup>3</sup> · Antonella Verzera<sup>2</sup> · Gaetano Siscaro<sup>1</sup>





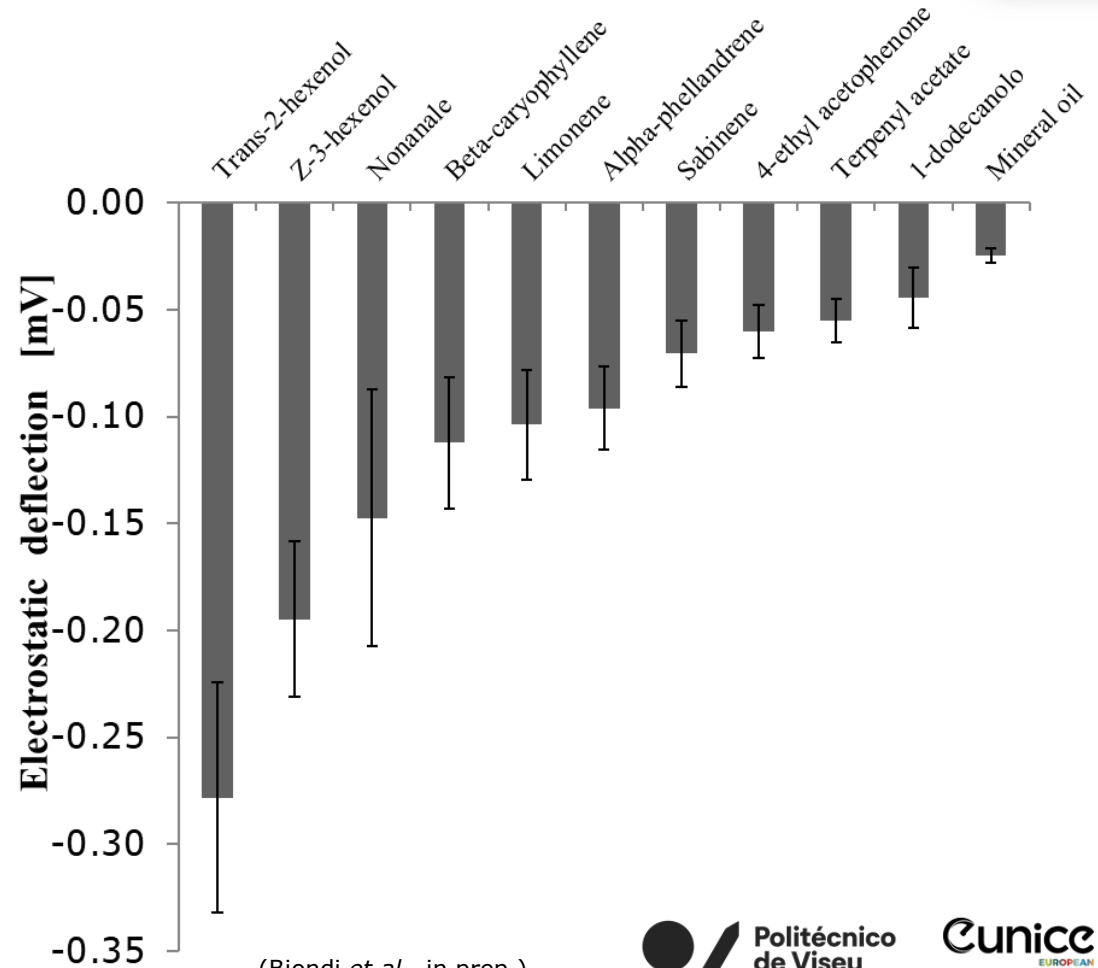
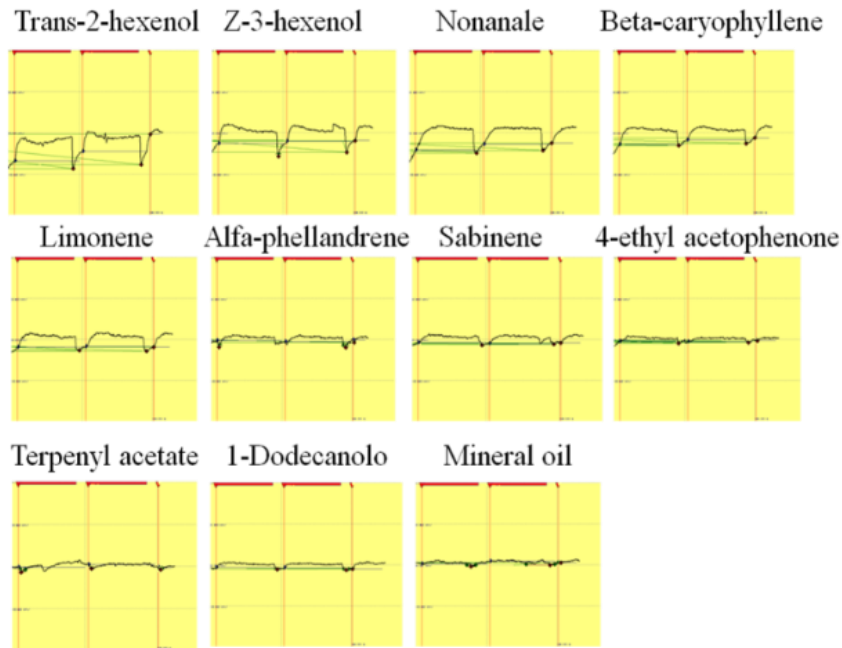
# Companion plants

Code	Compounds	Tomato			<i>D. viscosa</i>	<i>S. indicum</i>
		Healthy	Egg	Larvae		
<b>Terpenes</b>						
2)	$\alpha$ -Pinene	0.07b $\pm$ 0.025	0.09b $\pm$ 0.025	0.20a $\pm$ 0.016	0.08b $\pm$ 0.011	-
3)	$\alpha$ -Tujene	-	-	-	0.01 $\pm$ 0.002	-
5)	Camphene	0.02a $\pm$ 0.005	tr b	0.02a $\pm$ 0.001	0.01 a $\pm$ 0.002	tr b
6)	$\beta$ -Pinene	tr b	-	0.01b $\pm$ 0.002	0.04a $\pm$ 0.014	-
7)	Sabinene	0.81b $\pm$ 0.241	0.99b $\pm$ 0.243	1.77a $\pm$ 0.451	trc	0.01c $\pm$ 0.003
9)	$\delta$ -3-Carene	tr b	tr b	0.01b $\pm$ 0.002	0.02a $\pm$ 0.004	-
10)	Myrcene	-	-	-	0.02 $\pm$ 0.002	-
11)	$\alpha$ -Phellandrene	0.26a $\pm$ 0.029	0.34a $\pm$ 0.052	0.58a $\pm$ 0.147	tr b	tr b
12)	$\alpha$ -Terpinene	0.07a $\pm$ 0.014	0.06a $\pm$ 0.014	0.09a $\pm$ 0.019	0.01b $\pm$ 0.002	-
14)	Limonene	0.57a $\pm$ 0.0195	0.59a $\pm$ 0.53	0.95a $\pm$ 0.141	0.15b $\pm$ 0.037	0.02c $\pm$ 0.005
15)	$\beta$ -Phellandrene	1.24b $\pm$ 0.318	1.67b $\pm$ 0.376	2.40a $\pm$ 0.568	tr c	0.02c $\pm$ 0.004
17)	$\gamma$ -Terpinene	0.01a $\pm$ 0.002	0.01a $\pm$ 0.002	0.02a $\pm$ 0.003	0.01 a $\pm$ 0.002	-
18)	Terpinolene	0.02a $\pm$ 0.005	0.01a $\pm$ 0.003	0.02a $\pm$ 0.007	0.01b $\pm$ 0.001	tr c
	All	3.07	3.76	6.07	0.36	0.05
<b>Oxygenated terpenes</b>						
16)	Eucalyptol	-	-	-	0.02 $\pm$ 0.001	-
21)	(Z)-Rose oxide	tr	tr	0.01 $\pm$ 0.002	-	-
43)	Terpenyl acetate	1.07a $\pm$ 0.310	0.16b $\pm$ 0.006	0.90a $\pm$ 0.184	0.28b $\pm$ 0.016	0.41b $\pm$ 0.106
47)	p-Menth-ene-3-one (Piperitone)	-	0.01 $\pm$ 0.002	0.01 $\pm$ 0.003	0.01 $\pm$ 0.002	-
50)	Cuminaldehyde	0.01b $\pm$ 0.002	0.02a $\pm$ 0.004	0.02a $\pm$ 0.002	-	-
53)	4-Ethyl acetophenone	0.68b $\pm$ 0.147	0.45b $\pm$ 0.038	0.48b $\pm$ 0.010	1.49a $\pm$ 0.206	0.91a $\pm$ 0.242
	All	1.76	0.64	1.41	1.80	1.32
<b>Sesquiterpenes hydrocarbons</b>						
27)	$\alpha$ -Cubebene	0.01	0.02	0.01	0.01	-
28)	Ylangene	-	-	-	0.02	-
30)	Cycloisolongifolene	-	-	-	0.01	-
31)	(E)- $\alpha$ -Bergamotene	-	-	-	0.01	-
33)	$\beta$ -Caryophyllene	0.03b	0.09a	0.05b	0.03b	0.05b
34)	$\beta$ -elemene	-	trb	-	0.08a	-
35)	Sesquiterpenen.i.	0.01	0.02	0.02	0.02	-
37)	Sesquiterpenen.i.	0.01	0.01	0.01	-	-
38)	Alloaromadendrene	-	-	-	tr	-
39)	$\gamma$ -Elemene	0.01	-	-	-	-
40)	(E)- $\beta$ -Cubebene	-	-	-	0.01	-
41)	$\alpha$ -Humulene	0.24	0.27	0.15	-	-

Code	Compounds	Tomato			<i>D. viscosa</i>	<i>S. indicum</i>
		Healthy	Egg	Larvae		
42)	D germacrene	-	-	-	0.09 $\pm$ 0.025	-
44)	$\beta$ -Cadinene	-	-	-	tr	-
45)	$\alpha$ -Selinene	-	-	-	0.01 $\pm$ 0.002	-
46)	$\beta$ -Selinene	-	-	-	0.01 $\pm$ 0.001	-
48)	$\delta$ -Cadinene	-	-	-	0.01 $\pm$ 0.001	-
49)	$\alpha$ -Curcumene	-	-	-	0.03 $\pm$ 0.008	-
51)	(Z)-Calamenene	-	-	-	0.01 $\pm$ 0.002	-
	All	0.31	0.41	0.24	0.30	0.05
<b>Oxygenated sesquiterpenes</b>						
57)	$\alpha$ -Cadinol	-	-	-	0.07 $\pm$ 0.027	-
	All	-	-	-	0.07	-
<b>Cis-norisoprenoids</b>						
8)	4-Methyl-5-penten-2-one	0.10a $\pm$ 0.026	-	0.04a $\pm$ 0.006	tr b	-
22)	6-Methyl-5-hepten-2-one	0.11a $\pm$ 0.003	0.14a $\pm$ 0.035	0.13a $\pm$ 0.018	0.03b $\pm$ 0.002	0.10a $\pm$ 0.023
52)	Geranyl acetone	0.20a $\pm$ 0.031	0.23a $\pm$ 0.031	0.25a $\pm$ 0.062	-	0.14b $\pm$ 0.005
56)	$\beta$ -Methyl-ionone	-	-	-	-	0.12 $\pm$ 0.035
	All	0.41	0.37	0.42	0.03	0.36
<b>Aliphatic compounds</b>						
<b>Aldehydes</b>						
19)	Octanal	-	-	-	-	0.08 $\pm$ 0.007
25)	Nonanal	0.19b $\pm$ 0.016	0.15b $\pm$ 0.035	0.15b $\pm$ 0.027	-	0.31a $\pm$ 0.038
	All	0.19	0.15	0.15	-	0.39
<b>Esters</b>						
36)	Methylbenzoate	-	-	-	0.03 $\pm$ 0.002	-
	All	-	-	-	0.03	-
<b>Alcohols</b>						
20)	(E)-2-penten-1-ol	-	-	-	-	0.02 $\pm$ 0.009
23)	Diacetonealcohol	-	-	-	-	0.03 $\pm$ 0.004
24)	(Z)-3-hexen-1-ol	0.05 $\pm$ 0.019	0.05 $\pm$ 0.013	0.04 $\pm$ 0.003	-	-
26)	Heptanol	-	-	-	-	0.03 $\pm$ 0.001
55)	Dodecanol	-	-	-	-	0.07 $\pm$ 0.023
	All	0.05	0.05	0.04	-	0.15
<b>Hydrocarbons</b>						
1)	Decane	-	-	-	-	tr
4)	Toluene	-	-	-	-	tr
13)	Dodecane	-	-	-	-	tr
29)	Pentadecane	-	-	-	-	0.07 $\pm$ 0.009
32)	Hexadecane	-	-	-	0.02 $\pm$ 0.003	-
54)	Nonadecane	-	-	-	-	0.01 $\pm$ 0.002
	All	-	-	-	0.02	0.08
	Total volatiles	5.79	5.38	8.33	2.61	2.40

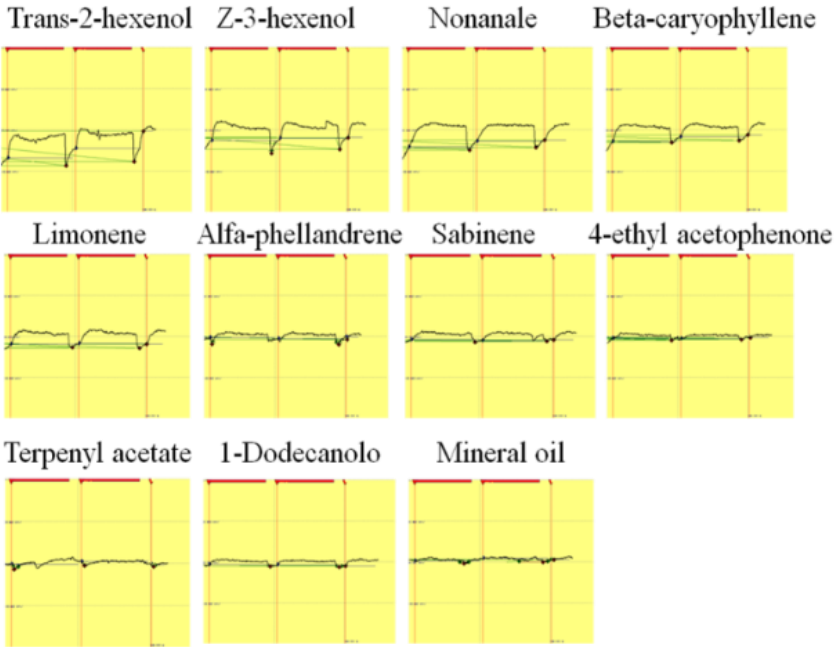
# Companion plants

## ➤ EAG trials



# Companion plants

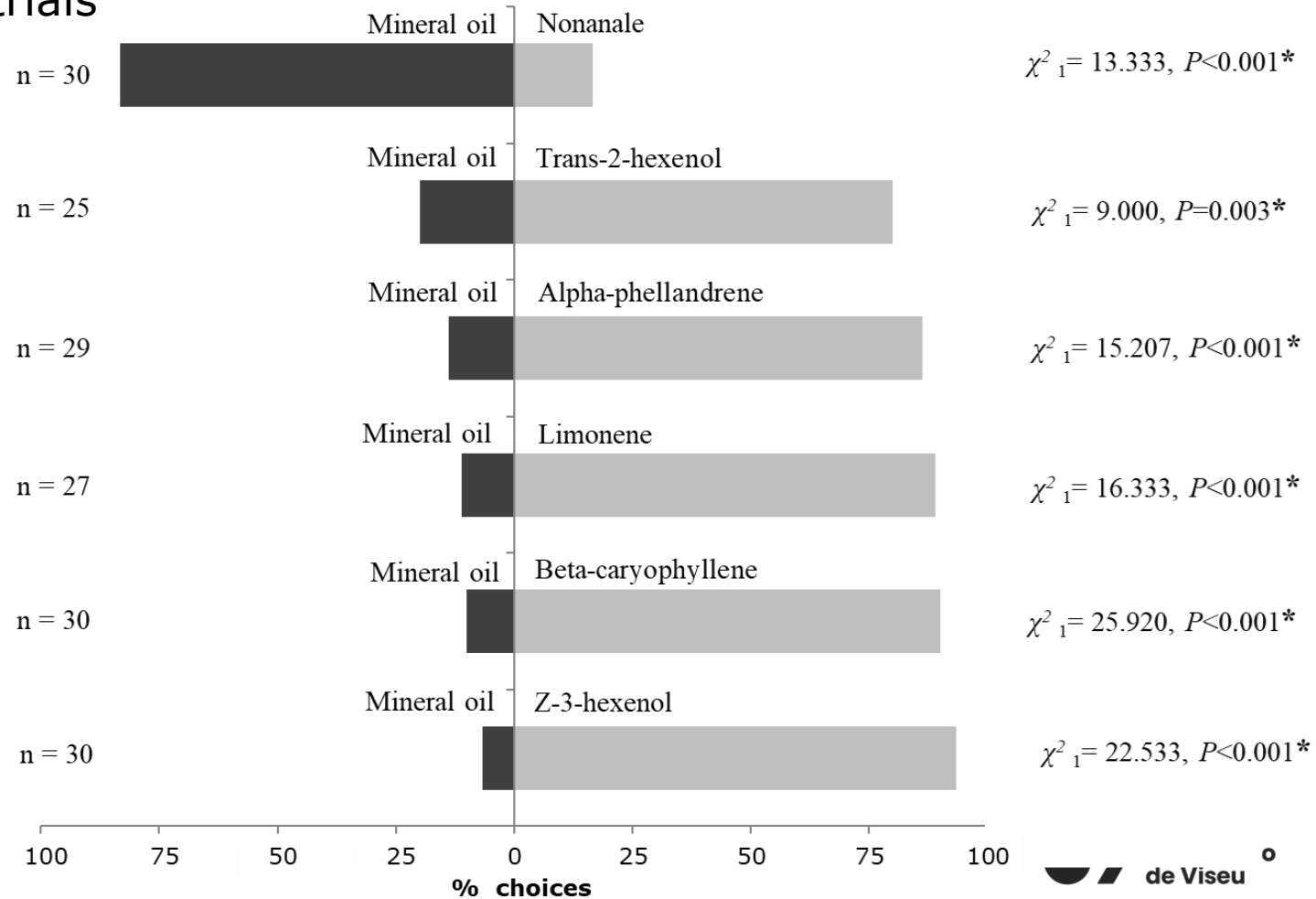
## ➤ EAG trials



(Biondi et al., in prep.)

# Companion plants

## ➤ Olfactometer trials





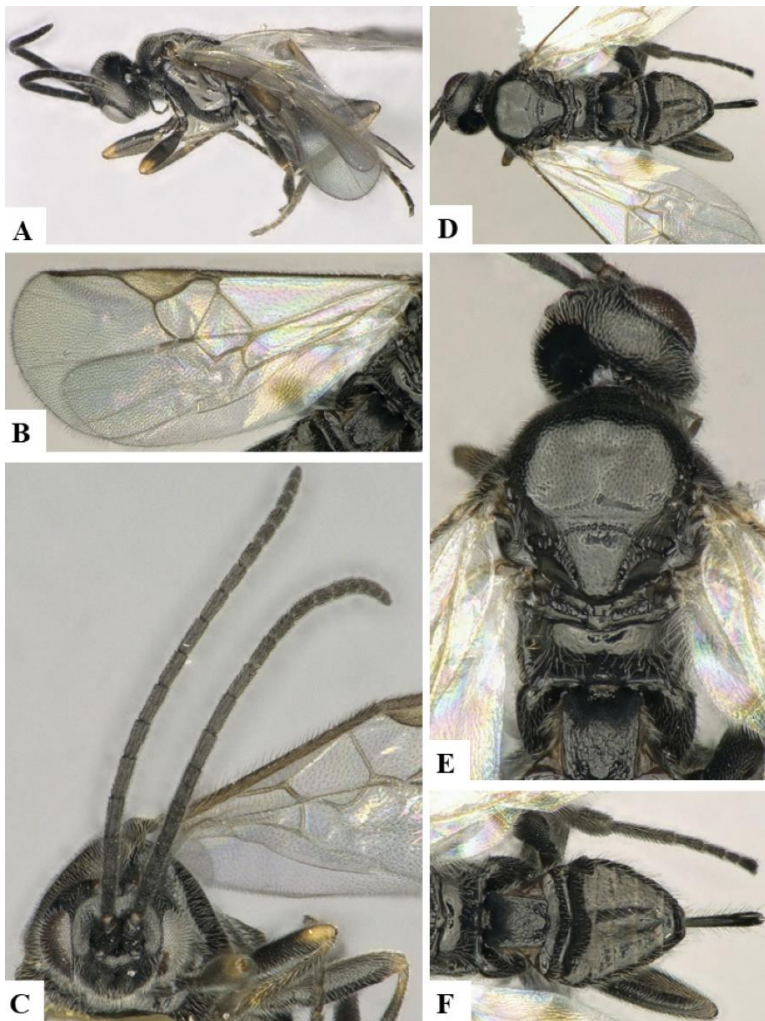
# Companion plants



# Further food web element

## ➤ *Dolichogenidea gelechiidivoris*

- Hymenoptera: Braconidae
- Native to the Neotropics
- koinobiont solitary endoparasitoid of *T. absoluta* and a few other closely related species
  - e.g. *Phthorimaea operculella*, *Keiferia lycopersicella*
- Imported in Kenya from Peru
- Fortuitously recovered in Spain and Algeria



(Denis *et al.*, 2021)



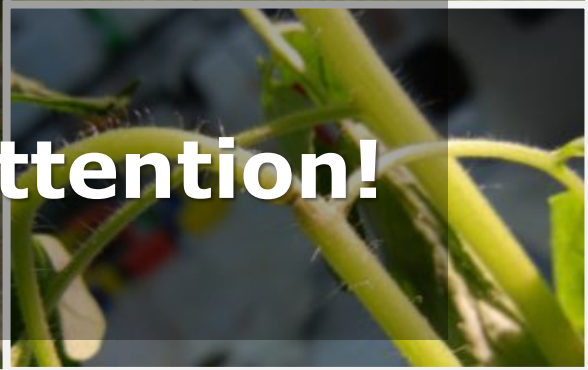
# Acknowledgements

- Project ASTER, PRIMA SECTION 2 2021 - MULTI-TOPIC
- ENI Cross-Border Cooperation Programme Italy-Tunisia 2014-20, INTEMAR project -IS\_2.1\_073
- Agritech National Research Center European Union Next-Generation EU





**Thank you for your attention!**





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# AGROECOLOGY AND SUSTAINABLE FOOD SYSTEMS

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WISEU, PORTUGAL, 16 - 22 JUNE 2024



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