

Title *Tyrophagus putrescentiae* (Schrank) (Astigmata: Acaridae) as a new predator of *Lasioderma serricorne* (F.) (Coleoptera: Anobiidae) in tobacco stores in Greece

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Abstract

While studying *Lasioderma serricorne* in tobacco stores, during the years 2002 and 2003, the presence of the cosmopolitan mite species *Tyrophagus putrescentiae*¹ preying on live *L. serricorne* larvae was noted. At intervals during this 2-year period, samples of dried tobacco leaves infested with *L. serricorne* were taken and the rate of parasitism by the mite was measured. The percentage of *L. serricorne* predated by *T. putrescentiae*, depending on time and tobacco store, was about 20%. *Tyrophagus putrescentiae* is reported for the first time as a predator of *L. serricorne* in tobacco stores in Greece.