

Title The granary weevil *Sitophilus granarius* is suppressed by the parasitoid *Lariophagus distinguendus* Forster (Hymenoptera: Pteromalidae).

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Abstract

The pteromalid wasp *L. distinguendus* is a promising candidate for the biological control of *S. granarius* and other stored product pest beetles. Therefore, the ability of *L. distinguendus* to suppress population growth of *S. granarius* was examined over a period of 7 months. Ten female weevils were released in glass jars containing 2 kg of wheat. For 5 weeks, 0, 2, 5, 10, 20 or 50 parasitoids were added to the jars weekly and the numbers of weevils emerging were counted after 12, 16, 20, 24 and 28 weeks. Regardless of the number of parasitoids added, the population size of *S. granarius* was reduced in the presence of *L. distinguendus* by 79-94% over the whole period. This indicates that *L. distinguendus* is able to significantly suppress the population growth of stored product pest weevils.