

Foraging of the parasitoid *Baryscapus tineivorus* for cloth moth larvae depends on type of materials infested



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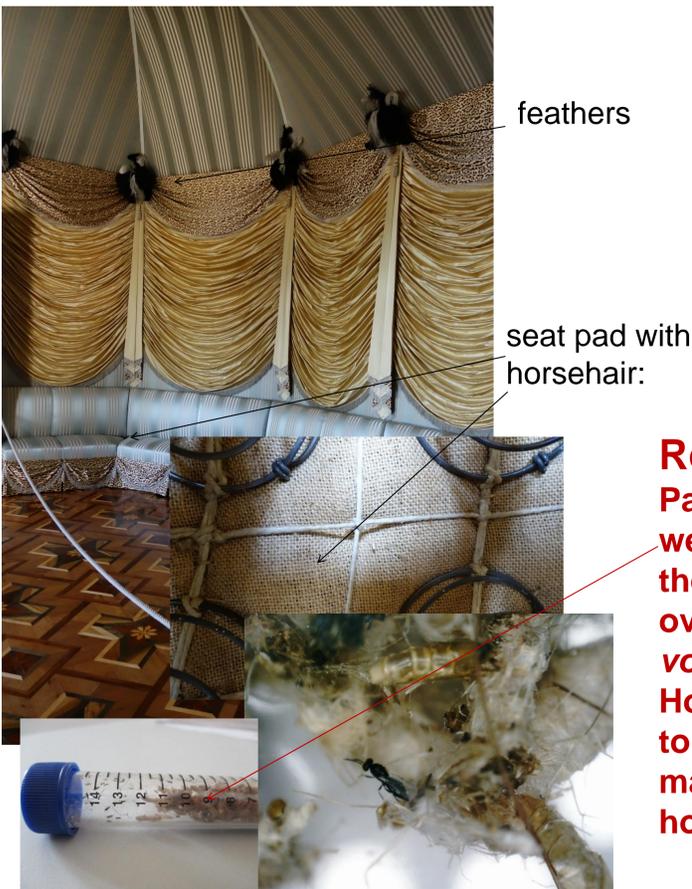
Introduction



Baryscapus tineivorus foraging in feathers

Biological control is one component of IPM. Parasitoid wasps like the cloth moth-parasitoid *Baryscapus tineivorus* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) search actively for their host, the larva of the cloth moth *Tineola bisselliella*. While they might find the pest in hidden places, they might as well be hindered by specific surfaces or materials. Here we study the impact of feathers and horsehair on host finding under laboratory and practical conditions.

Practical conditions



Conclusions

Are parasitoid *Baryscapus tineivorus* wasps able to find cloth moth larvae inside feathers and horsehair?

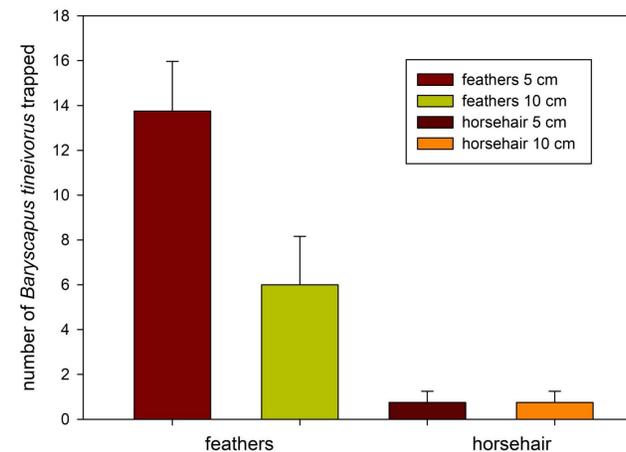
Inside feathers cloth moth larvae are located by the wasps, in horsehair host finding is strongly limited.

Do wasps find cloth moth larvae under practical conditions?

Yes, in case they are exposed and not hidden in dense material

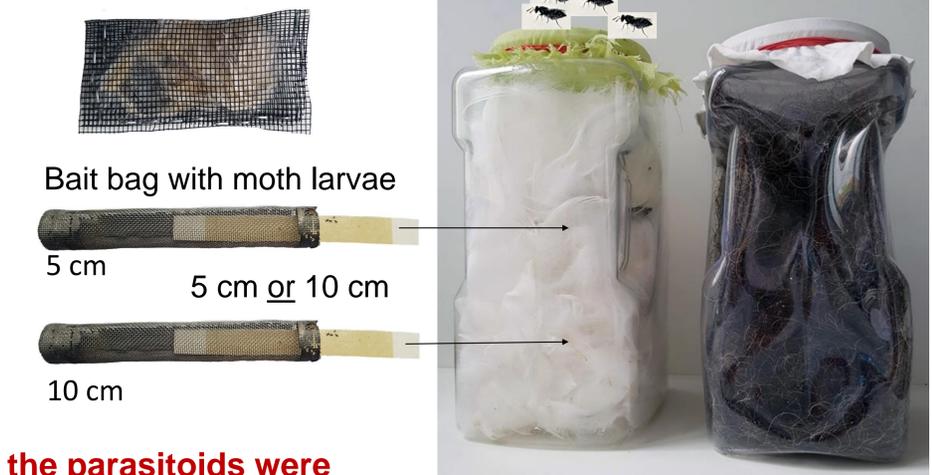
Results: Parasitoids emerged from the webbings in March. This shows the successful parasitisation and overwintering of *Baryscapus tineivorus* under practical conditions. However, adult moths were monitored in the room emerging presumably from furniture containing horsehair.

Laboratory I



Results: 34% (5 cm) and 15% (10 cm) of the the parasitoids were trapped in feathers, respectively, only few single wasps in horsehair.

Method



horsehair or feathers

One cage to trap parasitoids per trial

Laboratory II

Seat pads were stuffed either with horsehair/ horsehair or palm/ horsehair. One cage was placed as a trap in the center. 30 parasitoids were released on top. The box was closed.

Results

No parasitoids were trapped within the seat pads

Method

One cage to trap parasitoids inside

