

IOBC NEWSLETTER 4

Headquarters:
Entomologisches Institut der ETH
Universitätsstrasse 2
8006 Zürich, Switzerland
Secr. Gen.: Prof. Dr. V. Delucchi

IOBC is affiliated with the International Council of Scientific Unions (ICSU) as the Section of Biological Control of the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS)

NEW MEMBERSHIP FEES OF IOBC

The Council of the Organization has now endorsed the proposal of the Executive Committee to establish the following annual fees for membership, beginning from January 1975:

- (1) Individual membership fee **without** the journal *Entomophaga* - Swiss Francs (SF) 15.
- (2) Individual membership fee **with** the journal *Entomophaga* - SF 65.
- (3) Institutional membership fee **with** the journal - SF 300.
- (4) Supporting membership fee **with** the journal - SF 1800.

Members under (1) will receive the Newsletters and other IOBC documents, and also an abstract of the articles published in *Entomophaga*. The abstracts will be distributed by the publisher at the beginning of the year following membership. Members under (2), (3) and (4) will receive Newsletters and IOBC documents in addition to *Entomophaga*. Members are requested to pay their fees in SF to the IOBC treasurer directly [Bank account no. 786.095, Swiss Bank Corporation (Société de Banque Suisse), Avenue de la Gare, 2800 Delémont (Switzerland)] or through their Regional Section or country representatives.

ENTOMOPHAGA

It is IOBC policy to broaden further the scope of papers published in *Entomophaga*, so that its coverage reflects IOBC's concern with biological control in its wider sense and with integrated control. It is also desired to raise further the general quality of the papers published. To these ends, members and other scientists working on the various biological forms of control or on integrated control are invited to submit to *Entomophaga* papers of high quality for publication.

IOBC's PRESIDENT VISITS THE URSS

As a member of a US/USSR joint conference group on integrated pest control, and representing as well biological control, IOBC's President, Professor Carl Huffaker, had the pleasure of visiting the Soviet Union this summer (20 June to 20 July). He was especially interested in the strong emphasis in the USSR that is put upon biological control in both its classical and broader connotations.

The research being done and planned by the All-Union Institute of Plant Protection in Kishinev, Moldavia, is extensive and in depth. Present facilities there are soon to be greatly enlarged by construction of a modern building complex for biological control. Likewise, in Leningrad, the All-Union Institute of Plant Protection, which has a strong group in biological control, is currently in the process of moving into extensive new quarters in Pushkin on the outskirts of Leningrad. These two strong centers of activity are extensively complemented by active and enthusiastic biological control scientists at many other locations throughout the Soviet Union.

Not all the important places could be visited in the time available, but Drs. I. A. Chourayev and V. A. Lebedev of the Ministry of Agriculture arranged that those places especially

requested were worked in. Prof. Huffaker wishes to express here his great appreciation to all the fine scientists, too numerous to name, who hosted him and his companion, Dr. J. G. Horsfall, and shared their ideas and developments with them.

Visited were Moscow, Leningrad, Kishinev (Moldavia), Kiev (Ukraine), Tashkent, Samarkand and Buchara (Uzbekistan) and Alma Ata (Kazakhstan). Of special note were their highly sophisticated automated facility and technique for mass production of *Trichogramma* (Leningrad) and the extensive use made of mass «commercial» releases for control of field crop pests (e.g. in Moldavia and the Ukraine).

Bacillus thuringiensis is widely used (some 100,000 hectares in Moldavia alone), and so is the predatory mite *Phytoseiulus persimilis* (in over 200,000 sq. meters of glasshouse crops in Moldavia alone). In Kiev, they are extensively studying *Chrysopa* spp. and certain staphylinids and syrphids for use in mass release programs. Of special interest, studies are being conducted on the natural enemies of codling moth in the native home area of wild apples at Alma Ata (Kazakhstan). Obtained for introduction into the U.S. were a nuclear polyhedrosis virus of the codling moth and two parasites of this pest, *Microdus rufipes* and *Ascogaster quadridentatus*.

Systems of prognosis for prediction of populations of *Hadena* and of *Agrotis segetum* in wheat have been considerably developed in Kazakhstan.

The mass rearing of the codling moth developed at Kiev for use in studies on control or eradication programs was highly efficient and economical. Noted also were studies of biological control factors associated with several plant diseases (e.g. *Fusarium* and various wilt organisms) especially in Kiev and Tashkent. Lastly, an extensive program is underway under Dr. V. Burov at Leningrad to develop new insect hormone analogues and to test these and other hormones for insect control.

BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF WEEDS WORKING GROUP

New Station for *Lantana* control (K.L.S. Harley) [Taken from Newsletter No. 7 of the Biological Control of Weeds Working Group]

In June 1973 the Division of Entomology, CSIRO, Australia, established a field station at Curitiba, Parana, Brazil, for investigations into biological control of *Lantana camara*. Curitiba is central to a region of very diverse topography and climatic types and contains a variety of taxa of *L. camara* and related *Lantana* spp. John A. Winder, entomologist-in-charge, will study factors controlling *Lantana* in the region and conduct preliminary studies for selection of potential control agents and of their host specificity.

Newsletter No. 7 of the Biological Control of Weeds Working Group carried a report (too lengthy to reproduce here) by P. Harris and D. Peschken covering the developments until 1973 of 10 major biological control of weeds programs of the Canadian Department of Agriculture. Weed pests studied included: Knapweed (*Centaurea maculosa* and *C. diffusa*), Ragwort (*Senecio jacobaea*), St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), Spurge (*Euphorbia esula* and *E. cyparissias*), Toadflax (*Linaria vulgaris*) and Thistle (*Cirsium arvense*, *Carduus nutans* and *Cirsium vulgare*).

later on; to define the criteria for evaluation of these side-effects to establish later on a net of testing stations within the WPRS of which the results are recognized by countries in which WPRS operates.

No formal papers were read, but the problem was thoroughly discussed and agreement on the principles of work obtained. For the evaluation of the results of laboratory tests not the mortality of parasites or predator will be counted, but the reduction of the beneficial capacity, i.e. the degree of parasitization or of prey intake and fertility, respectively. A list of entomophagous species to be considered was established. As criteria for the selection of pesticides to be tested first, the following points were adopted: pesticides already on the market and allegedly harmless to entomophagous arthropods; pesticides most frequently applied, like fungicides and herbicides; different formulations of the same active ingredient to find the most selective one; new preparations, not yet on the market, for official definition of their selectivity, including substances for biotechnical control like pheromones or growth regulators.

The work of the group will be particularly important in integrated pest control, as the farmer will be able to select pesticides on the basis of their effect on beneficial arthropods and the industry will pay more attention to the development of selective pesticides. The next meeting will be between March 2 and 4, 1975, at Colmar (France).

(c) Working Group «Integrated Control in Vineyards»

At its first meeting this group has evaluated the major phytosanitary problems encountered in viticulture. Further activities will be based on this analysis. Entomological as well as phytopathological problems will be dealt with.

(d) Working Group «Integrated Control in Mediterranean Pine Forests»

This group has chosen the following as its main research items: (a) analysis of factors determining the population fluctuations of *Thaumetopoea pityocampa*, (b) mortality of *T. pityocampa* following use of B.t., and (c) action of predatory birds and the parasite *Phryxe caudata* on this pest.

(c) Working Group «Biological Control of Graminaceous Crops»

Council of WPRS decided to end this Group. [It is hoped that activity in this area will be developed among other Regional Sections.]

PACIFIC REGIONAL SECTION

(a) The end of the FAO Rhinoceros Beetle Project (Apia, W. Samoa) is planned next year. Biological control of *Oryctes rhinoceros* on coconuts with *Rhabdovirus oryctes* in Samoa, Wallis, Fiji, Tonga, and New Britain is now an established fact. The virus is available from Apia, Fiji and Wallis (it was sent to Mauritius, Africa, Madagascar etc.).

(b) *Brontispa longissima* (Col., Chrysom., Hispinae) is spreading on coconuts in Pago Pago (Amer. Samoa). Dr. I. Swan is conducting a mass rearing of the larval and pupal parasite, *Tetrastichus brontispae* (Hym., Eulophidae). *Othreis fullonia* (Lep., Catocalinae), a fruit sucking moth, is another important pest on tomatoes in American and Western Samoa. Parasites of eggs and larvae should be introduced from New Caledonia.

(c) *Achatina fulica* (the Giant African Snail) is spreading, mainly in New Caledonia. Predator snails (*Gonaxis* and *Euglandina*) have been introduced against it. Prof. A. R. Mead (Arizona Univ.) has pointed out that people in Tahiti are cautious about such introductions. It is hoped that man will prove to be an excellent predator and a canning factory using young Giant African Snails is planned for Tahiti.

(d) Work on biology and population ecology of *O. fullonia* is finished in New Caledonia; an egg parasite, *Ooencyrtus* sp. (Hym., Encyrtidae) and a tachinid fly (*Winthemia caledoniae*) could be used against this moth or its relatives elsewhere. *Polistes* wasps are excellent predators of this pest. Work on citrus scale insects and their parasites continues.

(e) In Tahiti, *Bacillus thuringiensis* provided good results against *Plutella xylostella* on cabbage; in New Caledonia, the predatory mite *Phytoseiulus persimilis* (sent from Europe) proved effective against *Tetranychus urticae* on vegetables in gardens around the town of Noumea. *P. persimilis* has been introduced in New Hebrides and its use is planned in Tahiti and Solomon Islands.

SOUT AND ASIAN REGIONAL SECTIONS (SEARS)

(a) Recent investigations on microbial insecticides and microbial control in Japan (from the President of SEARS)

Recent investigations on microbial insecticides and microbial control in Japan mainly concern viruses and bacteria. Pathogens and target insects are as follows:

(i) Viruses

Nuclear polyhedrosis virus: *Spodoptera litura*, *Hyphantria cunea*, *Mamestra brassicae*, *Euproctis subflava*, *Lymantria fumida*
Cytoplasmic polyhedrosis virus: *Dendrolimus spectabilis*, *Lymantria fumida*
Granulosis virus: *Pieris rapae crucivora*, *Adoxophyes orana*, *Chilo suppressalis*. Among them, cytoplasmic polyhedrosis virus of *D. spectabilis* has been widely disseminated by helicopter and a commercial preparation will be registered in the very near future. The effectiveness of the nuclear polyhedrosis virus of *S. litura* has been evidenced in the field and techniques for mass production of the virus, bioassay, and formulation have been well developed.

(ii) Bacteria

A commercial product of *Bacillus moritai* which is effective for the control of the house fly has been approved for manufacture by the Ministry of Public Welfare based on the results of safety tests. In January 1971, foreign *Bacillus thuringiensis* products have been exempted from plant quarantine in Japan. In 1972, the Japan Plant Protection Association set up the Study Committee on *B. thuringiensis* preparations, which comprises 5 sections (Fundamental research, Sericulture, Apiculture, Effectiveness, and Safety). At present 11 *B. thuringiensis* preparations including home and foreign products provided by 9 Japanese companies are experimentally applied in the field, and the discussions are focused on the registration of *B. thuringiensis* preparations.

(iii) Fungi

Climatic conditions, particularly high humidity, are quite adequate for the dissemination of fungi in Japan. Fundamental study on

the utilization of fungi is in progress. Recently, the significance of microbial insecticides has been greatly recognized in Japan. For example, in 1972, the Japanese Society of Fermentation Technology organized a symposium on microbial insecticides which has become one of the subjects in fermentation technology in Japan. In 1972, the Science and Technology Agency, of the Japanese Government has set up the Study Committee on Prospective Pesticides. Microbial insecticides are included in the plans and requirements and supports are now being discussed.

(b) South-East Asian Workshop on Aquatic Weeds

BIOTROP (Regional Center for Tropical Biology), Bogor, and the Brantas River Multipurpose Project of the Dept. of Public Works and Power, Indonesia organized a Workshop on Aquatic Weeds at Malang, East Java, from 25th to 29th June. It was attended by scientists representing most of the countries of South-east Asia and also the UK, the USA and Holland. The distribution, ecology, economic importance and control of several species of aquatic weeds were discussed and a one-day tour of weed-infested areas was arranged. It was generally agreed that *Eichhornia crassipes*, *Salvinia molesta*, *Pistia stratiotes* and *Hydrilla verticillata* were the most important aquatic weeds in the region which warranted immediate attention from the point of view of biological control. Basic investigations on the natural enemies of these weeds have already been completed by CIBC, USDA and other agencies. Field releases of *Paulinia acuminata*, a semi-aquatic Acridid which attacks *Salvinia*, have been made in some parts of Africa, India and Sri Lanka, and the species is now well established in Lake Kariba where its control value is being assessed.

(c) *Sturmiopsis parasitica*

Stocks of *Sturmiopsis parasitica*, a Tachinid parasite of graminaceous borers (*Sesamia*, *Busseola*, *Chilo* and *Eldana*) in Africa, are now available with CIBC Indian Station, Bangalore. For the first time, this parasite has been successfully bred in the laboratory and its biology studied. A paper dealing with these aspects is being published. In the laboratory the parasite has been found to attack many Indian species of graminaceous borers readily. Field trials are in progress. Those interested in obtaining stocks of the parasite for trial may contact the Entomologist-in-charge, CIBC Indian Station, P.O. Box 603, Bangalore 560 006, India.

WANTED

(a) Information on natural enemies of cotton leaf perforator *Bucculatrix thurberiella* and related species in view of the recent accidental introduction of *Bucculatrix* sp. into Barbados where it has become a major cotton pest. Please contact: Dr. F. D. Bennett, CIBC West Indian Station, Gordon Street, Curepe, Trinidad, West Indies.

(b) Request for an egg predator against *Tarophagus proserpina*, a Delphacid plant hopper on Taro (*Colocasia esculenta*), in the Solomon Islands. Please write to Jim Stapley, Senior Research Officer, Department of Agriculture, P. O. Box 25, Honiara, British Solomon Island Protectorate. This egg predator could be *Cyrtorhinus fulves* which was introduced in Samoa, Hawaii, the Philippines, etc.

(c) Pathogens of *Glossina*: Dr. M. Shapiro, Research Unit on Vector Pathology, Memorial

University of Newfoundland, St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada, is interested in any work that has been done on pathogens of *Glossina*. If you have any information please contact him.

PUBLICATIONS OF INTEREST

Following are some publications of interest to workers in biological control or integrated control that have come to the attention of the editors. This is not intended to be a complete listing and we will appreciate having other new books called to our attention.

Integrated Control in Glasshouses

(WPRS Bulletin 1973/4)

Report of the meeting of the Working Group «Integrated Control in Glasshouses» held from 18 to 20 September, 1973 at the Glasshouse Crops Research Institute, Littlehampton, England. Available from L. Brader, Instituut voor Plantenziektenkundig Onderzoek, Binnenhaven 12, Wageningen, the Netherlands.

Bulletin - «Insect Liberations in Canada - Parasites and Predators - 1973.

Available from J. S. Kelleher, Agriculture - Canada, Research Branch, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0C6

Biological Control by Natural Enemies,

by Paul DeBach. 1974. Cambridge University Press. 325 pp. Cloth \$ 14.95, Paper \$ 5.95

Insect Population Ecology: An Analytical Approach, by G. C. Varley, G. R. Gradwell and M. P. Hassell. 1974. Univ. of California Press. Berkeley. 212 pp. Paperback \$ 7.95.

Biological Control. C. B. Huffaker (ed.).

Paperback edition of the 1971 publication. Plenum Press, N.Y. 511 pp. Paperback \$ 8.95.

The Functional Response to Prey Density

In an Acarine System, H. G. Franz. 1974. Centre for Agric. Publ. and Documentation, Wageningen, the Netherlands. 143 pp. Paperback.

Proceedings of the FAO Conference

on Ecology in relation to plant pest control. Edited by FAO, Roma, Italy, 1974, 326 pages.

Those who requested them through the IOBC Secretary General will receive them in due course.

OILB/SROP (IOBC/WPRS): Contrôle visuel

en verger de pommier. Brochure No. 2, 2nd edition, 1974. 82 pages, paperback. Available from the Secretariat OILB/SROP, Instituut voor Plantenziektenkundig Onderzoek, Binnenhaven 12, Wageningen, The Netherlands, price SF 5 (US \$ 1.60).

OILB/SROP (IOBC/WPRS): Les organismes

auxiliaires en verger de pommier. Brochure No. 3, 1974, 242 pages (with colour plates). Available from the Secretariat OILB/SROP, Instituut voor Plantenziektenkundig Onderzoek, Binnenhaven 12, Wageningen, The Netherlands, price SF 21 (US \$ 7).

CIBC PUBLICATIONS

A Catalogue of Parasites and Predators of Terrestrial Arthropods. Section A, Host or Prey/Enemy. Vol. 3. Coleoptera to Strepsiptera (Price £ 5.00)

Proceedings of the 2nd International Symposium on Biological Control of Weeds. Rome, 1971. CIBC Misc. Publ. No. 6 (Price £ 2.00)

Proceedings of the 3rd International Symposium on Biological Control of Weeds. Montpellier, 1973. Copies are expected to be available by October 1974.

Copies of these publications may be ordered from the Commonwealth Agric. Bureaux, Central Sales, Farnham House, Farnham Royal, Slough SL2 3BN, England.

REQUEST FOR DATA ON ENTOMOLOGISTS AND RELATED SPECIALISTS

(Kent H. Wilson, P.O. Box 1097, Edmond, Oklahoma 73034, USA)

Data are being assembled on the entomologists of the world, past and present: authors, collectors, dealers, acarologists,

and related specialists. Data on about ten thousand entomologists have already been accumulated. The list is now being updated by asking for data from living entomologists (including acarologists).

Sydney Gould published comparable data concerning botanists in 1965. The entomologists retrieval codes used in this project will follow the system developed by S. Gould and will be registered and combined with Gould's. An individual's code will thus be the same unique code in both systems.

Data will be made available for use in data retrieval systems. The purpose is to establish an author data bank for working with entomology and related fields (mathematics, biometry, color, etc.). Personal data on finances, marriage, political affiliation, opinions, use of products, and other data that are not pertinent to entomology are not required or wanted. The sole purpose is to aid in the storage of entomological and related data. The results will be made available in three forms: (1) published list of names, dates, sources, interests, (2) data will be placed on the requestor's computer tape for possible use in this system, and (3) full data on an individual in the files will be made available upon request. It is hoped that, subsequently, additional data (list of publications, new taxa, etc.) will also be stored on tape and made available for distribution and retrieval. No attempt has been made to be exclusive; the intent is to be inclusive. If you have published or contributed in any way to the field of entomology, it would be appreciated if you would fill out and return the enclosed Questionnaire.

Editors and organizers of this issue: T. Sankaran, V. Delucchi, C. B. Huffaker, L. Brader, P. Cochereau, J. Kelleher, F. J. Simmonds, K. Yasumatsu

October 1974.

INTERNATIONAL
ORGANIZATION
FOR BIOLOGICAL
CONTROL

IOBC

ENTOMOLOGISCHES INSTITUT DER ETH
Universitätstr. 2, 8006 Zürich, Switzerland