

Seasonal Abundance of the Adventive Chinese Tallowtree Herbivore *Caloptilia triadicae* (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae) and Its Parasitoids

Authors: Wheeler, G. S., Dyer, K., Hight, S. D., and Wright, S. A.

Source: Florida Entomologist, 100(1) : 52-56

Published By: Florida Entomological Society

URL: <https://doi.org/10.1653/024.100.0109>

The BioOne Digital Library (<https://bioone.org/>) provides worldwide distribution for more than 580 journals and eBooks from BioOne's community of over 150 nonprofit societies, research institutions, and university presses in the biological, ecological, and environmental sciences. The BioOne Digital Library encompasses the flagship aggregation BioOne Complete (<https://bioone.org/subscribe>), the BioOne Complete Archive (<https://bioone.org/archive>), and the BioOne eBooks program offerings ESA eBook Collection (<https://bioone.org/esa-ebooks>) and CSIRO Publishing BioSelect Collection (<https://bioone.org/csiro-ebooks>).

Your use of this PDF, the BioOne Digital Library, and all posted and associated content indicates your acceptance of BioOne's Terms of Use, available at www.bioone.org/terms-of-use.

Usage of BioOne Digital Library content is strictly limited to personal, educational, and non-commercial use. Commercial inquiries or rights and permissions requests should be directed to the individual publisher as copyright holder.

BioOne is an innovative nonprofit that sees sustainable scholarly publishing as an inherently collaborative enterprise connecting authors, nonprofit publishers, academic institutions, research libraries, and research funders in the common goal of maximizing access to critical research.

Seasonal abundance of the adventive Chinese tallowtree herbivore *Caloptilia triadicae* (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae) and its parasitoids

G. S. Wheeler^{1,*}, K. Dyer¹, S. D. Hight², and S. A. Wright³

Abstract

Chinese tallowtree, *Triadica sebifera* (L.) Small (Malpighiales: Euphorbiaceae), is an invasive weed from southern China that is invasive in the Gulf states of the southeastern USA. One significant factor that contributes to the success of this weed has been the lack of herbivore species attacking it in the invaded range. However, the leafminer species *Caloptilia triadicae* Davis (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae) was discovered feeding on Chinese tallowtree in Florida in 2008 and has now been found throughout much of the plant's invaded range. We monitored the seasonal abundance of *C. triadicae* populations and their associated parasitoids over 2 yr in Florida. Populations of *C. triadicae* peaked in Jun and Jul in 2013 and 2014. Parasitism averaged about 3.3% of larvae and pupae, with a peak of 12%. The most abundant parasitoid species was *Goniozus* sp. (Hymenoptera: Bethyliidae) (76% of all parasitoid individuals reared) and, second, *Brasema* sp. (Hymenoptera: Eupelmidae) (18% of parasitoids). Due to specific niche requirements and the apparent exploitation of leaf mines by these parasitoid species, it is doubtful they will attack species being considered for biological control of Chinese tallowtree.

Key Words: biological control of weeds; *Triadica sebifera*; adventive species; invasive weed

Resumen

El árbol de sebo chino, *Triadica sebifera* (L.) Small (Malpighiales: Euphorbiaceae), es una maleza invasora del sur de China que es invasiva en los estados del Golfo del sureste de Estados Unidos. Un factor significativo que contribuye al éxito de esta mala hierba ha sido la falta de especies herbívoras que la atacan en el área de invasión. Sin embargo, una especie de minador de hojas *Caloptilia triadicae* Davis (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae) fue descubierta alimentándose del árbol de sebo chino en la Florida en el 2008 y ahora se la ha encontrado a través de gran parte del rango invadido de la planta. Se monitoreó la abundancia estacional de poblaciones de *C. triadicae* y sus asociados parasitoides por un período de 2 años en la Florida. Las poblaciones de *C. triadicae* alcanzaron su máximo en junio y julio del 2013 y del 2014. El promedio de parasitismo de larvas y pupas fue del 3,3%, con un pico de 12%. La especie de parasitoide más abundante fue *Goniozus* sp. (Hymenoptera: Bethyliidae) (76% de todos los individuos parasitoides criados) y, segundo *Brasema* sp. (Hymenoptera: Eupelmidae) (18% de los parasitoides). Debido a los requerimientos de nichos específicos y a la aparente explotación de las minas de hojas por estas especies de parasitoides, es dudoso que ellos atacarán a las especies que se consideran para el control biológico del árbol de sebo chino.

Palabras Clave: control biológico de malezas; *Triadica sebifera*; Gracillariidae; especies adventivas; maleza invasora

Plant invasions have broad impacts on the composition of invaded communities (Mooney & Cleland 2001). Invasive plants are a new resource that may be exploited by local species with diverse trophic relations to the plant (White et al. 2006). Some of these interactions are direct, such as those between a plant and associated herbivores, but others might be indirect, as with invasive plant species linked to a variety of higher trophic-level species assemblages (Veldtman et al. 2011). Indigenous natural enemies may take advantage of recent introductions of exotic insects, although at reduced levels compared with their attack of native hosts (Cornell & Hawkins 1993). These new arrivals may be introduced either accidentally or intentionally as biological control agents. Natural enemy antagonists have been linked to the prevention of establishment or reduction of the effectiveness of species introduced for biological control of weeds (Goeden & Louda

1976; Hill & Hulley 1995; Paynter et al. 2010). Native parasitoids often exploit introduced biological control agents soon after the agents' release (Cornell & Hawkins 1993; Hill & Hulley 1995; Paynter et al. 2010; Boughton et al. 2012). Knowledge of the patterns of parasitoid attack before and following agent release may assist in directing selection of future agents that are less prone to attack (Paynter et al. 2010).

Chinese tallowtree, *Triadica sebifera* (L.) Small (Malpighiales: Euphorbiaceae) (= *Sapium sebiferum*) (hereafter "tallow") is one of the most damaging invasive weeds in the southeastern USA, affecting wetlands, forests, and natural areas. Tallow is a deciduous tree that grows to 15 m tall in a wide range of forest types, on different soils, and under dry and moist conditions (Zheng et al. 2005). Currently, tallow infests 185,000 ha of southern forests, stranded swamps, flatwoods, and ru-

¹USDA/ARS Invasive Plant Research Laboratory, 3225 College Ave, Ft Lauderdale, FL 33314, USA; E-mail: Greg.wheeler@ars.usda.gov (G. S. W.), Kirsten.dyer@ars.usda.gov (K. D.)

²USDA/ARS CMAVE, 6383 Mahan Dr., Tallahassee, FL 32308, USA; E-mail: stephen.hight@ars.usda.gov (S. D. H.)

³USDA/ARS Invasive Plant Research Laboratory, 1911 SW 34th St, Gainesville, FL 32608, USA; E-mail: susan.wright@ars.usda.gov (S. A. W.)

*Corresponding author; E-mail: greg.wheeler@ars.usda.gov (G. S. W.)

deral communities in areas of 10 states that border the Gulf of Mexico and in California (EDDMapS 2015; Invasive.org 2015). Costs of likely future timber losses and control over the next 20 yr in forestlands of Texas, Louisiana, and Mississippi range from \$200 million to \$400 million (Wang HH et al. 2012).

Most of the herbivores that feed on tallow in the USA are generalists, including the grasshoppers *Melanoplus angustipennis* (Dodge) and *Orphulella pelidna* Burmeister (Orthoptera: Acrididae) (Siemann & Rogers 2003; Lankau et al. 2004). Experimental plantings of tallow in Florida are routinely damaged by generalists including the larvae of *Spodoptera frugiperda* Smith & Abbot and *Spodoptera latifascia* Walker (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae), as well as by adults of the invasive weevils *Mylocherus undatus* Marshall, *Pachnaeus litus* (Germar), and *Diaprepes abbreviatus* (L.) (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) (G. S. W. unpublished data). The only specialist herbivore feeding on tallow known from the USA is the moth *Caloptilia triadicae* Davis (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae), whose larvae mine and form blotches on the leaves (Davis et al. 2013). This adventive species has been reported from nearly all tallow-infested areas of the southeastern USA (Fox et al. 2012). *Caloptilia triadicae* is most likely from Asia and is thought to have arrived in the USA between 2002 and 2004 (Fox et al. 2012). Populations of *C. triadicae* were found in Florida in 2008 feeding on tallow trees planted to support biological control efforts of this invasive weed (Davis et al. 2013). Since this initial discovery, this insect has been found commonly in tallow-infested areas of Florida from early summer to Nov. During the early instars, larvae are sap feeding and form serpentine mines in young leaves. Later instars emerge from the mine and feed externally constructing a coiled, rosette-shaped leaf whorl (Fox et al. 2012; Davis et al. 2013). Mines occur on new growth, and some tallow saplings appear heavily damaged. Although *C. triadicae* was not introduced intentionally as a biological control agent, it shows narrow specificity completing development on only 1 other species besides the target weed (Duncan et al. 2016). Our goals were to document the seasonal abundance of this leafminer over 2 growing seasons on tallow in Florida and to document the diversity and abundance of any parasitoids attacking this herbivore's larvae or pupae.

Materials and Methods

SITES

To examine seasonal dynamics of *C. triadicae*, all instars and their parasitoids were monitored in a patch of planted tallow (hereafter "garden") infested with *C. triadicae* near Ft. Lauderdale (Broward County; 26.084611°N, 80.240384°W), Florida, in 2013 and 2014. To supplement these collections, all instars and pupae of *C. triadicae* were collected in leaf whorls near Leesburg (Lake County; 28.93655°N, 81.79298°W), Gainesville (Alachua County; 29.58702°N, 82.36225°W), Tallahassee (Leon County; 30.475980°N, 84.182896°W, and 30.463672°N, 84.182167°W), and West Augustine (St John's County; 29.91619°N, 81.37440°W), Florida. All sites were infested with tallow trees that had been present for more than 20 yr.

PLANTS

Tallow plants were grown at the United States Department of Agriculture/Agricultural Research Service (USDA/ARS) Invasive Plant Research laboratory in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, from seeds collected in Gainesville, Florida, in 2010. Their waxy coats were removed by soaking in water with laundry detergent (10 g/L) for 2 d. The prepared seeds were stored frozen (−10 °C) for 8 wk and then planted 1 cm deep in

germinating media (Fafard Germinating Mix formula, Sun Gro Horticulture, Agawam, Massachusetts). Germination occurred in a screen-house, under a 14:10 h L:D photoperiod produced by use of overhead lights (Spectralux T5 HO 54 Watt lights, Sun Blaze T5HO-48 fixtures, Sunlight Supply Inc., Vancouver, Washington). Daytime and nighttime temperatures averaged 25° C and 17° C, respectively. When the plants ($n = 50$) were approximately 30 to 45 cm tall, they were transferred to 3.7 or 11 L pots in potting media (Fafard 3B Professional formula Potting Mix, Sun Gro Horticulture, Agawam, MA) and moved to an outside garden. Drip irrigation was provided with 3.66 L per pot twice daily. Plants were fertilized every 2 wk with Peters Professional 20-20-20 (The Scotts Company LLC, Marysville, Ohio) at label rate and twice per year with controlled release fertilizer (Everris Nursery Mix, The Scotts Company LLC, Marysville, Ohio; 21-4-8, 22.5 g). No insecticides were applied to the plants. During insect collections, these plants were generally 1 to 1.5 m tall and had abundant newly flushed foliage.

INSECTS

To document field populations and seasonal dynamics of *C. triadicae*, leaf whorls were collected monthly as available during 2013 and 2014 in the tallow garden described above at Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. During each sampling, *C. triadicae* whorls were collected for 1 h by 1 collector and brought to the laboratory. The presence of live larvae or pupae was confirmed in each whorl by observation with a stereomicroscope (7.1x magnification). Whorls were set up individually in small Petri dishes (5.5 cm diameter) lined with moistened filter paper and sealed to the base of the Petri dish with a cotton string. Whorls were placed on a laboratory bench top at a 13:11 h L:D photoperiod and 25 °C temperature. Data were collected on the numbers of whorls collected and the numbers of *C. triadicae* adults and parasitoids that emerged.

Parasitoid species diversity was assessed by collecting *C. triadicae* larvae-infested whorls in bulk (about 250 g) from Ft. Lauderdale, Gainesville, Tallahassee, and West Augustine, Florida. Whorls were placed in a large Petri dish (20 × 7 cm) lined with moistened paper. The species of parasitoids that emerged were collected and stored in 95% alcohol for identification.

Results

Host *C. triadicae* larvae were first sampled in May of 2013, and their density (as number per man-hour of collection effort) peaked during Jun and Jul of 2013 and 2014 (Fig. 1). Following these peaks, the density of *C. triadicae* larvae and pupae decreased until none was found in Oct 2013 or in Nov 2014. In total, 1,534 larvae and pupae were collected, 940 during 2013 and 594 in 2014 (Fig. 1). Adult leafminers emerged from 55.5% of these larvae or pupae. No larvae or pupae were found between Nov and May of each year as the deciduous tallow leaves were unavailable.

Parasitism occurred each year from Jun to Sep (Fig. 1). During the 2 yr of data collection, parasitism never exceeded 12% of collected larvae and pupae. Overall parasitism was 3.3%, and the most common parasitoids were a *Goniozus* sp. (Hymenoptera: Bethyliidae) (76% of parasitoids), a *Brasema* sp. (Hymenoptera: Eupelmidae) (18% of parasitoids), and a *Sympiesis* sp. (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) (6% of parasitoids) (Table 1; Fig. 2). Two additional parasitoid species noted were *Zagrammosoma multilineatum* (Ashmead) (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) and either *Euplectrus* or *Platyplectrus* sp. (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae). When a host larva was parasitized by *Goniozus* sp., 3 parasitoids typically emerged from the host, whereas all of the other species were solitary.

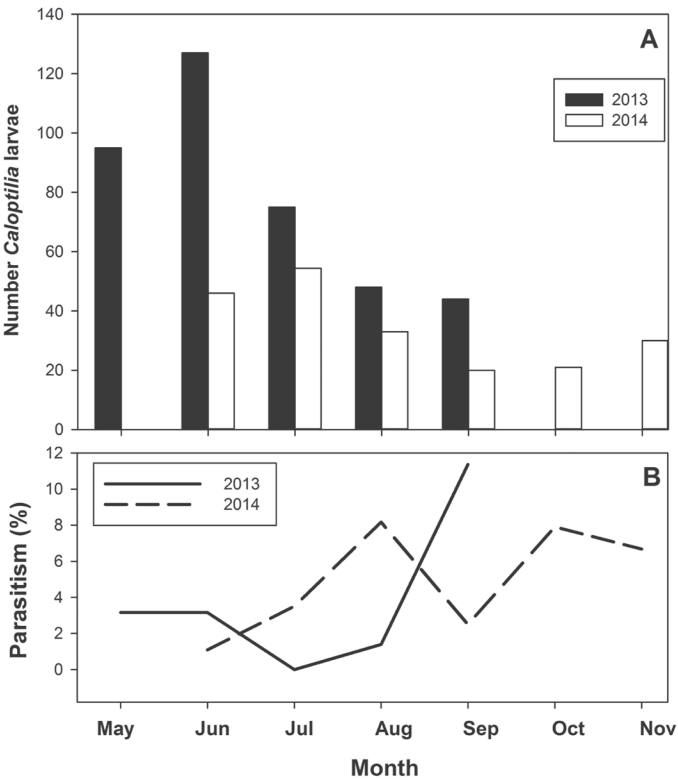


Fig. 1. *Caloptilia triadicae* larval and pupal population dynamics (A) and percentage of parasitism (B) from tallow grown in a garden in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Larvae and pupae were collected in leaf whorls.

Discussion

We found that several parasitoids attacked a relatively new immigrant herbivore that has only been present in North America for about 10 yr (Fox et al. 2012). A similar parasitism pattern was found for the introduced biological control agent *Neomusotima conspurcatalis* Warren (Lepidoptera: Crambidae) on *Lygodium microphyllum* (Cav.) R. Br. (Schizeales: Lygodiaceae) (Kula et al. 2010; Boughton et al. 2012). In south Florida, 6 parasitoid species were discovered exploiting *N. conspurcatalis* parasitizing 6.8% of the field-collected larvae. Apparently, such novel hosts may expect only a brief period of enemy-free space before they are discovered and exploited by native natural enemies (Carvalho et al. 2008; Paynter et al. 2010). Over time, the diversity and density of parasitoid species exploiting the tallow leafminer in Florida is likely to increase due to its further spread or behavioral adaptation by local parasitoids (Grabenweger et al. 2010).

The parasitoids we found attacking this tallow leafminer were most likely generalists that occupied habitats near the tallow-invaded area (Cornell & Hawkins 1993). These parasitoids probably exploited

hosts that feed as leafminers or species from other guilds with similar feeding habits, similar to that of the tallow-feeding *C. triadicae* larvae. Leafminers attacking cultivated citrus may be one source of these *C. triadicae* parasitoids in Florida as some of our collection sites were near the large citrus-growing areas that support the exotic citrus leafminer, *Phyllocnistis citrella* Stainton (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae). Native generalists, primarily from the eulophids, attack the exotic citrus leafminer *P. citrella* in Florida (Peña et al. 1996; Amalin et al. 2002; Xiao et al. 2007). Our results show that at least 1 of the parasitoids associated with *P. citrella*, *Z. multilineatum*, was also recovered from the tallow-feeding leafminer *C. triadicae*. The introduced *P. citrella* parasitoid *Ageniaspis citricola* Logvinovskaya (Hymenoptera: Encyrtidae) was not recovered in our surveys.

Although all these parasitoids are thought to be native and to probably attack many species, their origin is unclear. However, they all attack hosts from similar feeding guilds. *Brasema* species are mostly primary or secondary larval/pupal ectoparasitoids of a wide variety of holometabolous insects in concealed situations (Gibson 2011). *Goniozus* species are ectoparasitoids of immature stages of microlepidopteran families (e.g., Gelechiidae, Pyralidae, and Tortricidae) (Gordh & Móczár 1990). *Goniozus* species are known to parasitize several species that occupy concealed feeding locations, such as *Platynota idaeusalis* Walker (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae) (Brown et al. 2010), and European grapevine moth, *Lobesia botrana* Denis & Schiffermüller (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae) (Moreau et al. 2010). Malaise trap surveys in central Florida detected 9 species of *Goniozus* (Evans & Fullerton 1997). Species of *Sympiesis* frequently exploit gracillariid leafminers (Grabenweger & Lethmayer 1999; Mafi & Ohbayashi 2006), including the citrus leafminer *P. citrella* (Schauff et al. 1998), or tortricid leafrollers (Cossentine et al. 2004).

The leafminer *C. triadicae* is not a classical biological control agent of tallow but was discovered in the tallow-invaded range during research conducted on the invasive weed. Due to distinctive morphological characteristics, *C. triadicae* is thought to have originated in Asia (Davis et al. 2013). Several unsuccessful attempts were made to find this species on tallow in China (G. S. W. unpublished data). At least 3 congeneric species were discovered feeding on tallow in its native range, causing the same distinct leaf damage. However, further analysis indicated they were not *C. triadicae* (Davis et al. 2013). Biological control efforts are currently focused on several species that show promise in terms of specificity and impact against tallow (Wheeler & Ding 2014). These include the flea beetle *Bikasha collaris* (Baly) (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae) (Huang et al. 2011) and the defoliating caterpillar *Gadirtha fusca* Pogue (Lepidoptera: Nolidae) (Wang Y et al. 2012; Pogue 2014). Once released, biological control agents may come in contact with these *C. triadicae* parasitoids. However, it is unlikely that the niche-specific parasitoids found in this survey will attack these potential biological control agents as the larvae of *B. collaris* feed on tallow roots in soil and the *G. fusca* larvae are large (~350 mg dry weight) exposed foliage feeders. Considering the demonstrated niche specificity of these parasitoids, it is unlikely that they will attack the biological control agents being developed to control the invasive weed tallow.

Table 1. Parasitoids reared from larvae and pupae of the leafminer *Caloptilia triadicae* collected feeding on Chinese tallowtree during 2013–2014 in Florida.

Family	Subfamily	Genus	Species	Percentage of parasitoid complex
Bethylidae	Bethylinae	<i>Goniozus</i>	sp.	76
Eupelmidae	Eupelminae	<i>Brasema</i>	sp.	18
Eulophidae	Eulophine	<i>Sympiesis</i>	sp.	6
Eulophidae	Eulophine	<i>Zagrammosoma</i>	<i>multilineatum</i>	<1
Eulophidae	Eulophine	<i>Euplectrus</i> or <i>Platyplectrus</i>	sp.	<1

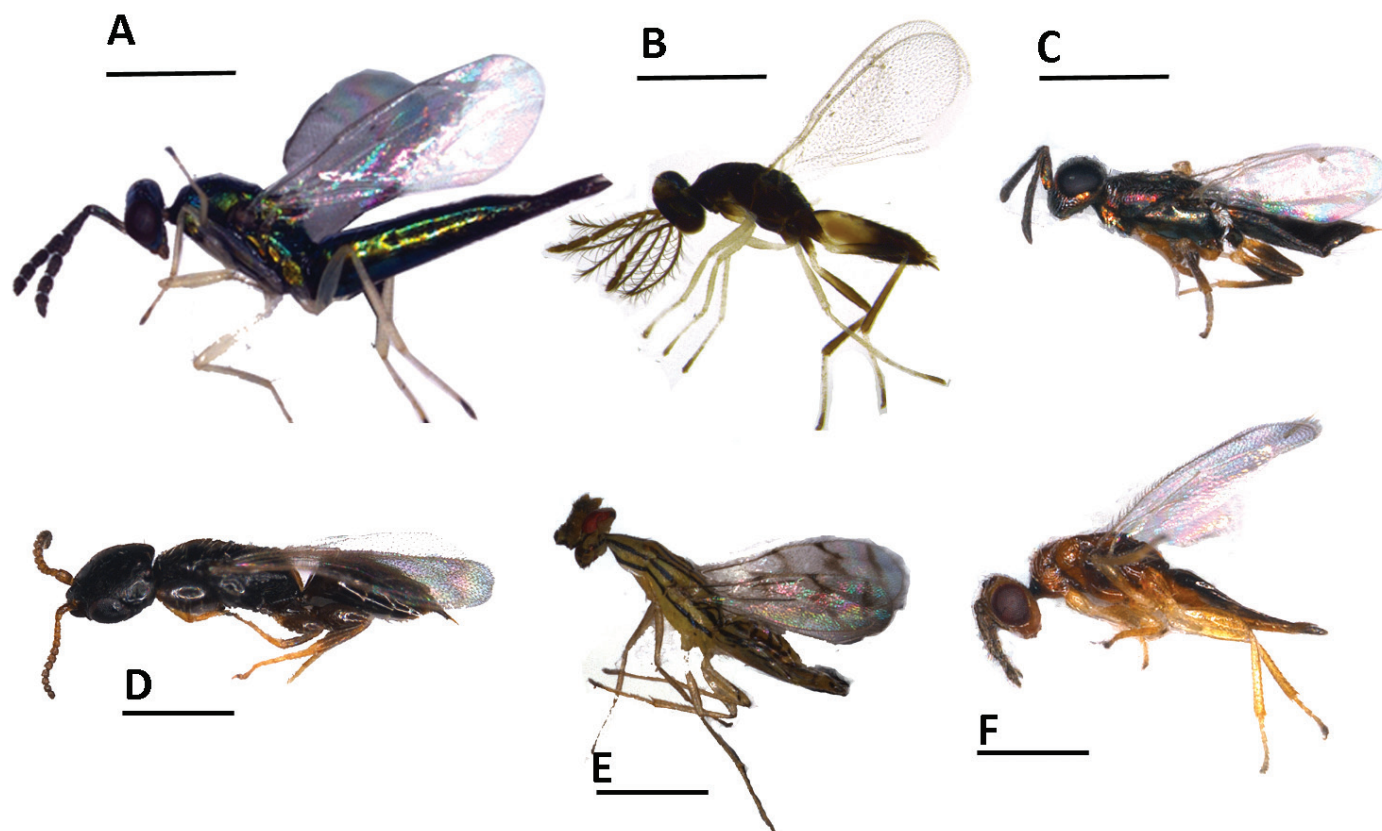


Fig. 2. Parasitoid species reared from larvae and pupae of *Caloptilia triadicae* feeding on Chinese tallow leaves in Florida. A. *Sympiesis* sp. female; B. *Sympiesis* sp. male (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae); C. *Brasema* sp. (Hymenoptera: Eupelmidae); D. *Goniozus* sp. (Hymenoptera: Bethyliidae); E. *Zagrammosoma multilineatum* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae); F. *Euplectrus* sp. or *Platyplectrus* sp. (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae). Horizontal scale bars represent 1 mm in A, B, and C and 0.5 mm in D, E, and F.

Acknowledgments

We acknowledge W. Pierre, J. Lollis, S. Steininger, C. Nguyen, J. Duncan, and K. Bowers (USDA/ARS), who provided technical assistance. *Caloptilia triadicae* specimens were generously identified by D. Davis, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, District of Columbia. Assistance with parasitoid identification was generously provided by M. Gates (USDA/ARS/SEL, Beltsville, Maryland), J. Heraty (U.C. Riverside, Riverside, California), G.A.P. Gibson (Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Ottawa, Canada), and C. Tribull (American Museum of Natural History). DNA barcoding analysis was conducted by R. Hazen, Tulane University (GenBank accession numbers KF061045–KF061062). This research was partially funded by the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (to G. S. W.) and USDA/ARS.

References Cited

- Amalin DM, Peña JE, Duncan RE, Browning HW, McSorley R. 2002. Natural mortality factors acting on citrus leafminer, *Phyllocnistis citrella*, in lime orchards in south Florida. *Biocontrol* 47: 327–347.
- Boughton AJ, Kula RR, Gates M, Zhang Y, Nunez M, O'Connor J, Whitfield JB, Center TD. 2012. Parasitoids attacking larvae of a recently introduced weed biological control agent, *Neomusotima conspurcatalis* (Lepidoptera: Crambidae): key to species, natural history, and integrative taxonomy. *Annals of the Entomological Society of America* 105: 753–767.
- Brown MW, Mathews CR, Krawczyk G. 2010. Extrafloral nectar in an apple ecosystem to enhance biological control. *Journal of Economic Entomology* 103: 1657–1664.
- Carvalho LG, Buckley YM, Ventim R, Fowler SV, Memmott J. 2008. Apparent competition can compromise the safety of highly specific biocontrol agents. *Ecology Letters* 11: 690–700.
- Cornell HV, Hawkins BA. 1993. Accumulation of native parasitoid species on introduced herbivores: a comparison of hosts as natives and hosts as invaders. *American Naturalist* 141: 847–865.
- Cossentine J, Jensen L, Deglow E, Bennett A, Goulet H, Huber J, O'Hara J. 2004. The parasitoid complex affecting *Choristoneura rosaceana* and *Pandemis limitata* in organically managed apple orchards. *Biocontrol* 49: 359–372.
- Davis DR, Fox MS, Hazen RF. 2013. Systematics and biology of *Caloptilia triadicae* (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae), a new species of leaf-mining moth of the invasive Chinese tallow tree (*Triadica sebifera* (L.) Euphorbiaceae). *Journal of the Lepidopterists' Society* 67: 281–290.
- Duncan JG, Steininger MS, Wright SA, Wheeler GS. 2016. Host range of *Caloptilia triadicae* (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae): an adventive herbivore of Chinese tallowtree (Malpighiales: Euphorbiaceae). *Florida Entomologist* 99: 142–145.
- EDDMapS. 2015. Early Detection and Distribution Mapping System. <http://www.eddmaps.org> (last accessed 28 Nov 2016).
- Evans HE, Fullerton SM. 1997. Report on a collection of Bethyliidae (Hymenoptera) from central Florida. *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington* 99: 174–179.
- Fox M, Hazen R, Wheeler GS, Davis DR. 2012. Using internet images to gather distributional data for a newly discovered *Caloptilia* species (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae) specializing on Chinese tallow in North America. *American Entomologist* 58: 32–35.
- Gibson GAP. 2011. The species of *Eupelmus* (Eupelmus) Dalman and *Eupelmus* (*Episolidella*) Girault (Hymenoptera: Eupelmidae) in North America north of Mexico. *Zootaxa* 2951: 1–97.
- Goeden RD, Louda SM. 1976. Biotic interference with insects imported for weed control. *Annual Review of Entomology* 21: 325–342.
- Gordh G, Móczár L. 1990. A Catalog of the World Bethyliidae (Hymenoptera: Aculeata), The American Entomological Institute, Gainesville, Florida.
- Grabenweger G, Lethmayer C. 1999. Occurrence and phenology of parasitic Chalcidoidea on the horse chestnut leafminer, *Cameraria ohridella* Deschka & Dimic (Lep., Gracillariidae). *Journal of Applied Entomology* 123: 257–260.

- Grabenweger G, Kehrli P, Zweimüller I, Augustin S, Avtzis N, Bacher S, Freise J, Girardoz S, Guichard S, Heitland W, Lethmayer C, Stolz M, Tomov R, Volter L, Kenis M. 2010. Temporal and spatial variations in the parasitoid complex of the horse chestnut leafminer during its invasion of Europe. *Biological Invasions* 12: 2797–2813.
- Hill MP, Hulley PE. 1995. Host-range extension by native parasitoids to weed biocontrol agents introduced to South Africa – Commentary. *Biological Control* 5: 297–302.
- Huang W, Wheeler GS, Purcell MF, Ding J. 2011. The host range and impact of *Bikasha collaris* (Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae), a promising candidate agent for biological control of Chinese tallow, *Triadica sebifera* (Euphorbiaceae) in the United States. *Biological Control* 56: 230–238.
- Invasive.org. 2015. Invasive.org Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health. www.invasive.org (last accessed 28 Nov 2016).
- Kula RR, Boughton AJ, Pemberton RW. 2010. *Stantonia pallida* (Ashmead) (Hymenoptera: Braconidae) reared from *Neomusotima conspurcatalis* Warren (Lepidoptera: Crambidae), a classical biological control agent of *Lygodium microphyllum* (Cav.) R. Br. (Polypodiales: Lygodiaceae). *Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington* 112: 61–68.
- Lankau RA, Rogers WE, Siemann E. 2004. Constraints on the utilisation of the invasive Chinese tallow tree *Sapium sebiferum* by generalist native herbivores in coastal prairies. *Ecological Entomology* 29: 66–75.
- Mafi SA, Ohbayashi N. 2006. Toxicity of insecticides to the citrus leafminer, *Phyllocnistis citrella*, and its parasitoids, *Chrysocharis pentheus* and *Sympiesis striatipes* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae). *Applied Entomology and Zoology* 41: 33–39.
- Mooney HA, Cleland EE. 2001. The evolutionary impact of invasive species. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America* 98: 5446–5451.
- Moreau J, Villemant C, Benrey B, Thiéry D. 2010. Species diversity of larval parasitoids of the European grapevine moth (*Lobesia botrana*, Lepidoptera: Tortricidae): the influence of region and cultivar. *Biological Control* 54: 300–306.
- Paynter Q, Fowler SV, Gourlay AH, Groenteman R, Peterson PG, Smith L, Winks CJ. 2010. Predicting parasitoid accumulation on biological control agents of weeds. *Journal of Applied Ecology* 47: 575–582.
- Peña JE, Duncan R, Browning H. 1996. Seasonal abundance of *Phyllocnistis citrella* (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae) and its parasitoids in south Florida citrus. *Environmental Entomology* 25: 698–702.
- Pogue MG. 2014. A new species of *Gadirtha* Walker (Nolidae, Eligmidae): a proposed biological control agent of Chinese tallow (*Triadica sebifera* [L.] Small) (Euphorbiaceae) in the United States. *ZooKeys* 382: 13–25.
- Schauff ME, LaSalle J, Wijesekara GA. 1998. The genera of chalcid parasitoids (Hymenoptera: Chalcidoidea) of citrus leafminer *Phyllocnistis citrella* Stainton (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae). *Journal of Natural History* 32: 1001–1056.
- Siemann E, Rogers WE. 2003. Reduced resistance of invasive varieties of the alien tree *Sapium sebiferum* to a generalist herbivore. *Oecologia* 135: 451–457.
- Veldtman R, Lado TF, Botes A, Procheş Ş, Timm AE, Geertsema H, Chown SL. 2011. Creating novel food webs on introduced Australian acacias: indirect effects of galling biological control agents. *Diversity and Distributions* 17: 958–967.
- Wang HH, Grant WE, Gan J, Rogers WE, Swannack TM, Koralewski TE, Miller JH, Taylor JW. 2012. Integrating spread dynamics and economics of timber production to manage Chinese tallow invasions in southern U.S. forestlands. *PLoS One* 7: e33877.
- Wang Y, Zhu L, Gu X, Wheeler GS, Purcell M, Ding J. 2012. Pre-release assessment of a noctuid *Gadirtha inexacta* (= *Iscadia inexacta*) proposed as a biological control agent of Chinese tallow (*Triadica sebifera*) in the United States. *Biological Control* 63: 304–309.
- Wheeler GS, Ding J. 2014. Is Chinese tallowtree, *Triadica sebifera*, an appropriate target for biological control in the United States? *Invasive Plant Science and Management* 7: 345–359.
- White EM, Wilson JC, Clarke AR. 2006. Biotic indirect effects: a neglected concept in invasion biology. *Diversity and Distributions* 12: 443–455.
- Xiao Y, Qureshi JA, Stansly PA. 2007. Contribution of predation and parasitism to mortality of citrus leafminer *Phyllocnistis citrella* Stainton (Lepidoptera: Gracillariidae) populations in Florida. *Biological Control* 40: 396–404.
- Zheng H, Wu Y, Ding J, Binion D, Fu W, Reardon R. 2005. Invasive Plants Established in the United States that Are Found in Asia and their Associated Natural Enemies, Volume 2. USDA/FS, FHTET 2004-05, Morgantown, West Virginia.