

PARASITOIDS OF *SPARGANOTHIS PILLERIANA* (DEN. ET SCHIFF.) (LEPIDOPTERA: TORTRICIDAE) IN SOUTHERN VINEYARDS OF ROMANIA

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Abstract

Sparganothis pilleriana (Den. et Schiff.) is a microlepidopteran known in the vineyards of Western and Southern Romania, with small populations and of low economic importance. As a result of the rearing of grape leaf-roller larvae and pupae, 29 species belonging to the Hymenoptera and Diptera have been obtained as primary and secondary parasitoids. These species were collected from two vineyards located in the southern part of Romania, characterized by different climatic and chemical treatment conditions. *Catolaccus ater* (Ratzb.), *Pediobius* spp., *Elasmus* spp. and *Eupelmus vesicularis* (Retz.) were recorded as secondary parasitoids, while *Brachymeria tibialis* (Walk.), *Dibrachys cavus* (Walk.) and *Elasmus viridiceps* (Thoms.), as primary and secondary parasitoids. 35 host-parasitoid relationships have been recorded, many of them new to science. The contribution of these parasitoids to the reducing of grape leaf-roller populations was 20.77%. The important contribution belongs to the Ichneumonidae family, for which the parasitization ratio was 8.29%. *B. tibialis* (Walk.), *Nemorilla maculosa* (Meig.), *Diadegma germanicum* (Horst.) and *Goniozus claripennis* (Först.) are the most important components of this parasitoid complex. Four parasitoids species were obtained by rearing in laboratory as secondary parasitoids of *G. claripennis* (Först.): *C. ater* (Ratzb.), *E. viridiceps* (Thoms.), *Elasmus* spp., and *E. vesicularis* (Retz.).

Keywords: grape leaves-roller, parasitizing ratio, relationships.

1. INTRODUCTION

Sparganothis pilleriana (Den. et Schiff.), known as *Pyrula* in viticulture, is a polyphagous species which, since a long time ago, has caused significant damage in European vineyards. In the last half of the XX century, this species was a notable pest in the Champagne vineyards - France, Switzerland, Austria, Hungary and Spain (Russ, 1969; Saglio et al., 1977), and in Iran it represented, along with *Eudemis*, the main pest of vines (Zoebelein, 1966). Nowadays, Reineke and Thiéry (2016) consider *Pyrula*'s area restricted to several local regions in France, Germany and Spain. It has one generation, and its peculiarity is that its biological cycle unfolds over two consecutive years, after a hibernar larval diapause of 7 to 9 months (Bovey, 1966; Galet, P., 1982). Decreasing the severity of its attack through developing a number of efficient control methods, involves knowing the role played by the complex of parasitoids that act on the pest. To that effect, the first studies are conducted in France, in 1842, by Audouin (quoted in Voukassovitch, 1924), who indicated 15 species of Hymenoptera, and a dipterous-tachinide as parasitoids. Voukassovitch

(1924) continued the study of parasitoids on *S. pilleriana* (Den. et Schiff.) in France, and identified 25 species of Hymenoptera and 5 species of Tachinidae as primary and secondary parasitoids. Thompson (1957) published a list of 38 parasitoid species cited in the literature of his time, of which 5 Braconidae species, 12 Ichneumonidae species, one Betylidae species, one Chalcididae species, 7 Pteromalidae species, one Eulophidae species, one Thorymidae species, one Trichogrammatidae species and 9 Tachinidae species.

During the last half of the XX century, there have been few studies concerning this topic (Pykhova, 1968; Alfaro-Moreno, 1966; Schirra and Louis, 1995, etc.). The vast wine-growing areas of France maintain the interest for the natural enemies, in such a way that, at the beginning of the XXI century, new species of parasitoids were highlighted and data from the literature on *Pyralla*'s parasitoids were systematized (Thiéry et al., 2001; Thiéry, 2008; Thiéry et al., 2011; Martinez, 2012; Villemant et al., 2012).

The grape leaf-roller is also known as a pest in the vineyards of Western Romania since the end of the XIX century, as it appears from the works of Heves (1884) and Jablonowski (1900) (quoted in Predescu, 1971). In the last half of the XX century, important populations of the species were mentioned in several vineyards in the Western Romania (Predescu, 1967, 1971), and were as well reported in the north-eastern vineyards, but without economic importance (Luca, 1981), and at the beginning of the XXI century there were highlighted in the vineyards in the south of the country (Bărbuceanu, 2005).

Regarding natural enemies, five species of parasitoids have been identified in Romania, species which control the population of the pest in the vineyards located in western Romania: *Itopectis maculator* (F.), *Cremastus dalmatinus* Strobl., *Diadegma fenestrale* (Holmgr.), *Exochus consimilis* Holmgr., and *Nemorilla floralis* (Fall.). The species *D. fenestrale* (Holmgr.) was noted, with a larval parasitism rate that varied between 6-15% (Predescu, 1971).

In our contribution, the species of parasitoids are presented, which have been obtained through rearing larvae and pupae of *S. pilleriana* (Den. et Schiff.) collected in two vineyards in Southern Romania, as well as and their importance in controlling the pest's populations.

Our study brings important contributions to the knowledge of the parasitoid complex in question, almost a century after the study of Voukassovitch (1924) in vineyards of France.

2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The observations were carried out in two vineyards in Southern Romania, namely Ștefănești and Dăbuleni. The vineyard of Ștefănești, located in the central southern region of the Wallachian hills, and characterized by a rather wet and cool climate until the year 2000, later warmer, presented a small *S. pilleriana* (Den. et Schiff.) population, found on a third of the 3 ha surface of the vineyard area. In the vineyard of the Research - Development Center for Field Crops on Sandy Soils Dăbuleni, located in Southern Oltenia near the Danube, with a climate characterized by Mediterranean influences, the *S. pilleriana* population was well developed on a 2 ha surface. The vineyards were different given the regimen of the chemical treatments carried out in areas damaged by this pest over the period of observations. Thus, in Dăbuleni, there were no systematic insecticide treatments till 2001, but over the first part of June 2002, when the flowering time ended, a treatment was applied against the larvae of the leaf rolling tortrix. In the Ștefănești vineyard, up to the year 2000 systematic chemical treatments were conducted against the larvae of the grape moths, which also fought the larvae of *S. pilleriana* (Den. et Schiff.), present in the vineyard during the same period as those of the first generation; subsequently, no more insecticide treatments were done.

The samplings were done over the period of activity of the host, i.e. May to July, in the years 1998, 2000-2003, for the variety *Fetească regală*, in Ștefănești, and 2000-2002, for the variety *Roșioara*, in Dăbuleni. The 1,170 larvae and pupae collected were reared in laboratory conditions, after being isolated in glass containers in order to retain the possible parasitoids. The larvae were fed, daily, with vine leaves. Out of the samples, 243 were parasitized.

For a comparative study, a new series of samples was wanted to be collected ten years after the initiation of this study, but real estate interests in Ștefănești caused the removal of the vineyards where the observations were made, so that currently the wine-growing area from Ștefănești is drastically diminished and made our approach impossible.

Also, within the Research - Development Center for Field Crops on Sandy Soils Dăbuleni, the vineyard where the observations took place was removed, together with the almost 650 ha of vineyards, currently only on an area of 13.78 ha being again cultivated the varieties *Fetească neagră*, *Riesling Italian*, *Roșioara*.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

The parasitoid complex of *Sparganothis pilleriana* (Den. et Schiff.)

In Ștefănești and Dăbuleni vineyards, populations of *S. pilleriana* (Den. et Schiff.) were controlled by 29 species of primary parasitoids and hyperparasitoids in the orders Hymenoptera and Diptera.

The following species were obtained: *Itopectis maculator* (Fabricius 1775), *Pimpla rufipes* (Mil.) (syn. *instigator*), *Phytodietus* spp., *Phytodietus ornatus* Desvignes 1856, *Phytodietus polyzonias* (Förster 1771), *Diadegma contractum* (Brischke 1880), *D. germanicum* (Horstmann 1973), *D. holopygum* (Thomson 1887), *D. laricinellum* (Strobl. 1904), *D. longicaudatum* (Horstmann 1969), *D. tenuipes* (Thomson 1887), *Exochus consimilis* Holmgren 1858, and *Mesochorus* (*Stictopisthus*) *bilineatus* Thomson 1886 (Ichneumonidae); *Microgaster globata* (Linnaeus 1758) and *Apanteles lenea* Nixon 1976 (Braconidae); *Goniozus claripennis* (Förster 1851) (Bethyridae); *Brachymeria tibialis* (Walker 1834) (Chalcididae); *Pteromalus* spp., *Cyclogastrella deplanata* (Nees 1834), *Dibrachys cavus* (Walker 1835), *Dibrachys* spp. and *Catolaccus ater* (Ratzeburg, 1852) (Pteromalidae); *Colpoclypeus florus* (Walker 1839), and *Pediobius* spp. (Eulophidae); *Elasmus viridiceps* Thomson, 1878 and *Elasmus* spp. (Elasmidae); *Eupelmus vesicularis* (Retzius 1783) (Eupelmidae); *Nemorilla maculosa* (Meigen 1824), and *Pseudoperichaeta nigrolineata* (Walker 1853) (Tachinidae) (Fig. 1).

Moreover, *D. laricinellum* Strobl. was obtained as new species for Romania's fauna by the rearing of grape leaf-roller larvae, subsequently mentioned by Pisciă (2005).

The nature of the host-parasitoid relationship and the degree of novelty are presented in Table 1.

Paull and Austin (2007) mention about 20 species of parasitoids of *Epiphyas postvittana* (Walker), a major pest of grapes in Australia and New Zealand.

In the period of our study, the parasitoids ensured a parasitizing ratio of 20.77% (Table 2), which denotes the important role of these insects in the conditions in which there is currently an expansion of the use of pesticides worldwide, with a drastic effect on entomophages (Desneux et al. 2007; Geiger et al., 2010).

These parasitoids are polyphagous or oligophagous species, most of them developing more than one generation per year, so that they are able to find alternative hosts for their development in the biotope in question. Also, some species have a wide spread, with a high ecological plasticity, such as the case of Pteromalid *Dibrachys cavus* (Moreau et al., 2010).

Most of the primary parasitoids are larval (16), six species are pupal (*P. rufipes* (Mil.), *B. tibialis* (Walk.), *Pteromalus* spp., *C. deplanata* (Nees), *Dibrachys* spp., *D. cavus* (Walk.)), and three species are larval and/or larvo-pupal parasitoids (*I. maculator* (Fabr.), *N. maculosa* (Meig.) and *P. nigrolineata* (Walk.) (Table 1). The most efficient family in limiting the host populations belong to the Ichneumonidae family with 13 species and a parasitizing ratio of 8.29%, followed by the Chalcididae and the Tachinidae, while the Braconidae and the Elasmidae families had a minor participation in primary parasitism: 0.51%, and, respectively, 0.13% (Table 2). As far as the parasitizing ratios of the parasitoid species, the species *B. tibialis* (Walk.) can be singled out as the most important parasitoid, as its participation in reducing the host populations amounts to 3.59% (Fig. 2).

The role played by the hyperparasitoids of *S. pilleriana* (Den. et Schiff.) has been found to be of little significance (Table 3) (Bărbuceanu and Andriescu, 2012).

In Ștefănești, over the period 1998, 2000-2003 twenty-one species of primary parasitoids and hyperparasitoids were obtained, out of which 18 species of primary parasitoids, and 3 species of hyperparasitoids: *C. ater* (Ratzb.), *Pediobius* spp., and *E. vesicularis* (Retz.).

Following the order of significance in parasitizing the host, the species *N. maculosa* (Meig.), *C. florus* (Walk.) and *B. tibialis* (Walk.) can be singled out (Fig. 3).

In Dăbuleni, over the period 2000-2002, twenty species of primary parasitoids and hyperparasitoids were obtained, out of which 15 species as primary parasitoids, 3 species as primary and secondary parasitoids, i.e. *B. tibialis* (Walk.), *E. viridiceps* Thoms. and *D. cavus* (Walk.) (Fig. 3), 2 species as secondary parasitoids, i.e. *C. ater* (Ratzb.) and *Elasmus* spp.. A case of multiple parasitism was recorded in a larva of *S. pilleriana* (Den. et Schiff.), collected in the year 2002, realized by a female of *C. florus* (Walk.) and a female of *E. viridiceps* Thoms. (Bărbuceanu and Andriescu, 2010). Following the order of significance in parasitizing the host, the species *B. tibialis* (Walk.), *G. claripennis* (Först.), *D. germanicum* (Horst.) and *N. maculosa* (Meig.) can be singled out.

Out of the 29 species of primary parasitoids and hyperparasitoids, 11 species of primary parasitoids (Fig. 3) and the hyperparasitoid *C. ater* (Ratzb.) are common to these vineyards.

If we consider, in a comparative manner, the role of parasitoids in controlling the *S. pilleriana* (Den. et Schiff.) populations in Ștefănești and Dăbuleni, important differences can be found (Table 2).



Figure 1. a. *Sparganothis pilleriana* caterpillar parasitized by *Colpoclypeus florus* larvae
b. *Phytodietus ornatus* cocoon near the remains of *S. pilleriana* caterpillar

Table 1. The host-parasitoid relationships

No.	Host	Parasitoid	Larval/ Pupal/ Larvo-pupal	relationship (novelty) at the time of research
1.	LEPIDOPTERA TORTRICIDAE SPARGANOTHINAE <i>Sparganothis pilleriana</i> (Den. et Schiff.)	ICHNEUMONIDAE <i>Itopectis maculator</i> (Fabricius 1775)	L/L-P	known
		<i>Pimpla rufipes</i> (Mil.)(syn. <i>instigator</i>)	P	New for Romania
		<i>Phytodietus</i> sp.	L	New for Romania
		<i>Phytodietus ornatus</i> Desvignes 1856	L	New to science
		<i>Phytodietus polyzonias</i> (Förster 1771)	L	New to science
		<i>Diadegma contractum</i> (Brischke 1880)	L	New to science
		<i>Diadegma germanicum</i> (Horstmann 1973)	L	New to science
		<i>Diadegma holopygum</i> (Thomson 1887)	L	New to science
		<i>Diadegma laricinellum</i> (Strobl. 1904)	L	New to science
		<i>Diadegma longicaudatum</i> (Horstmann 1969)	L	New to science
		<i>Diadegma tenuipes</i> (Thomson 1887)	L	New to science
		<i>Exochus consimilis</i> Holmgren 1858	L	known
		<i>Mesochorus (Stictopisthus) bilineatus</i> Thomson 1886	L	New to science
		BRACONIDAE <i>Microgaster globata</i> (Linnaeus 1758)	L	New to science
		<i>Apanteles lenex</i> Nixon 1976	L	New to science
		BETHYLIDAE <i>Goniozus claripennis</i> (Förster 1851)	L	New for Romania
		CHALCIDIDAE <i>Brachymeria tibialis</i> (Walker 1834)	P	New for Romania
		PTEROMALIDAE <i>Pteromalus</i> spp.	P	New for Romania
		<i>Cyclogastrella deplanata</i> (Nees 1834)	P	New for Romania
		<i>Dibrachys cavus</i> (Walker 1835)	P	New for Romania
		<i>Dibrachys</i> spp.	P	New for Romania
		EULOPHIDAE <i>Colpoclypeus florus</i> (Walker 1839)	L	New for Romania
		ELASMIDAE <i>Elasmus viridiceps</i> Thomson, 1878	L	New for Romania
		TACHINIDAE <i>Nemorilla maculosa</i> (Meigen 1824)	L/L-P	New for Romania
		<i>Pseudoperichaeta nigrolineata</i> (Walker 1853)	L/L-P	New for Romania
2.	HYM: ICHNEUMONIDAE <i>Diadegma</i> spp.	CHALCIDIDAE <i>Brachymeria tibialis</i> (Walker 1834)	P	New to science
3.	Ichneumonidae gen. spp.	PTEROMALIDAE <i>Dibrachys cavus</i> (Walker 1835)	P	New for Romania
		<i>Catolaccus ater</i> (Ratzeburg, 1852)	P	New for Romania
		PTEROMALIDAE <i>Catolaccus ater</i> (Ratzeburg, 1852)	P	New for Romania
4.	BETHYLIDAE <i>Goniozus claripennis</i> (Förster 1851)	ELASMIDAE <i>Elasmus viridiceps</i> Thomson, 1878	L	New for Romania
		<i>Elasmus</i> spp.	L	New to science
		EUELMIDE <i>Eupelmus vesicularis</i> (Retzius 1783)	P	New to science
		CHALCIDIDAE <i>Brachymeria tibialis</i> (Walker 1834)	P	New for Romania
5.	CHALCIDIDAE <i>Brachymeria tibialis</i> (Walker 1834)	PTEROMALIDAE <i>Catolaccus ater</i> (Ratzeburg, 1852)	P	New for Romania
6.	DIP: TACHINIDAE <i>Nemorilla maculosa</i> (Meigen 1824)	PTEROMALIDAE <i>Catolaccus ater</i> (Ratzeburg, 1852)	P	New to science
		EULOPHIDAE <i>Pediobius</i> sp.	P	New to science

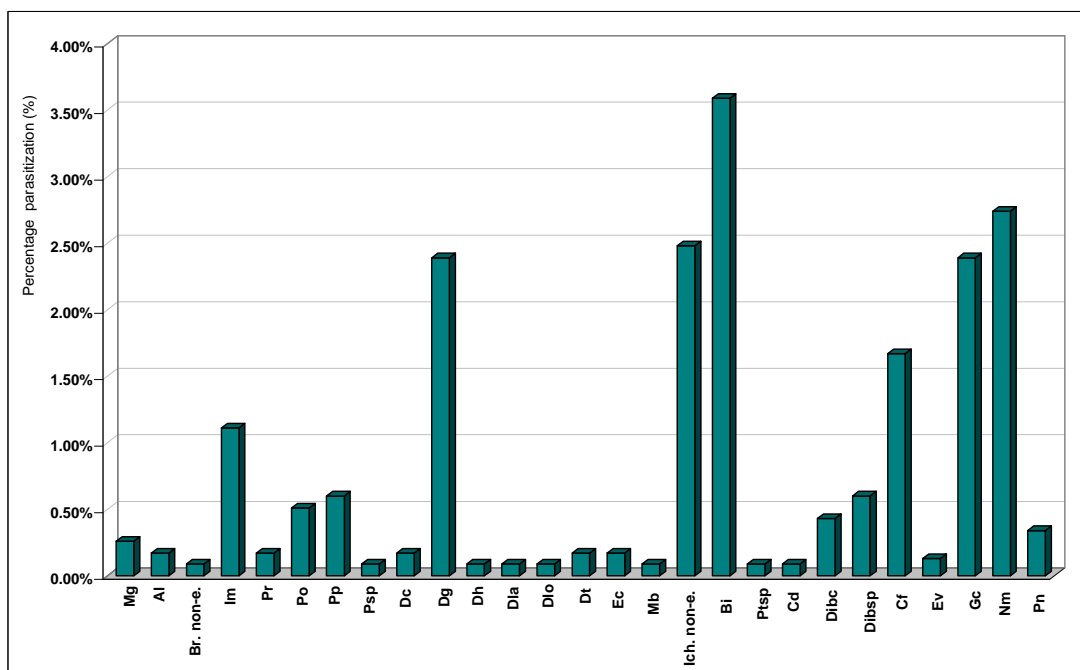


Figure 2. The importance of primary parasitoids in reducing of the *Sparganothis pilleriana* (Den. et Schiff.) populations in Southern vineyards

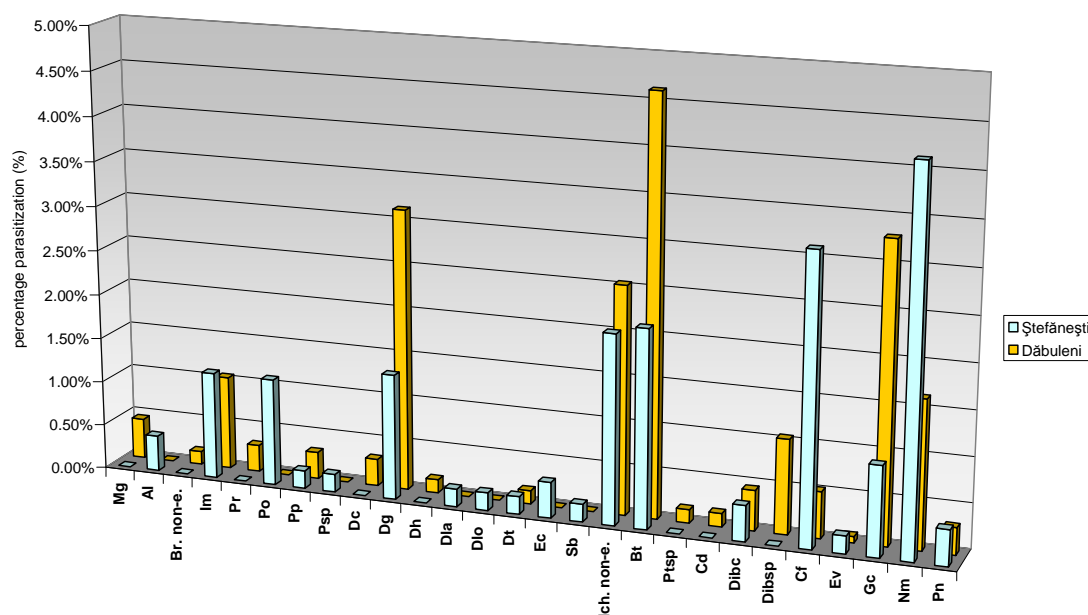


Figure 3. The importance of primary parasitoids in reducing of the *Sparganothis pilleriana* (Den. et Schiff.) populations in Ștefănești and Dăbuleni vineyards

Al – *Apanteles leuea*; Bt – *Brachymeria tibialis*; Br. non-e. – non-emerging Braconidae; Cd – *Cyclogastrella deplanata*; Cf – *Colpoclypeus florus*; Dc – *Diadegma contractum*; Dibc – *Dibrachys cavus*; Dg – *Diadegma germanicum*; Dh – *Diadegma holopygum*; Dla – *Diadegma larinellum*; Dlo – *Diadegma longicaudatum*; Dt – *Diadegma tenuipes*; Dibsp – *Dibrachys* spp.; Ec – *Exochus consimilis*; Ev – *Elasmus viridiceps*; Gc – *Goniozus claripennis*; Im – *Itoplectis maculator*; Ich. non-e. – non-emerging Icheumonidae; Mg – *Microgaster globata*; Nm – *Nemorilla maculosa*; Pi – *Pimpla rufipes*; Po – *Phytodietus ornatus*; Pp – *Phytodietus polyzonias*; Psp – *Phytodietus* spp.; Ptsp – *Pteromalus* spp.; Pn – *Pseudoperichaeta nigrolineata*; Mb – *Mesochorus bilineatus*

Table 2 . Efficiency of the family of primary parasitoids in reducing of the *Sparganothis pilleriana* populations

Vineyard		Ștefănești						Dăbuleni				Total
Year		1998	2000	2001	2002	2003	Subtotal	2000	2001	2002	Subtotal	
No. of ind. coll.		27	64	124	164	122	501	215	308	146	669	1170
No. of ind. par. (No.i.p.)		5	12	18	30	34	99	61	67	16	144	243
%		18.51	18.75	14.52	18.29	27.87	19.76	28.37	21.75	10.96	21.52	20.77
Ichneumonidae	No. spp./ No. i.p.	3/5	2/5	1/7	5/12	4/10	10/39	3/26	5/25	1/7	7/58	13/97
	%	18.51	7.81	5.65	7.32	8.20	7.78	12.09	8.12	4.79	8.67	8.29
Braconidae	No. spp./ No. i.p.	-	-	-	1/2	-	1/2	1/1	1/3	-	1/4	2/6
	%	-	-	-	1.22	-	0.4	0.47	0.97	-	0.6	0.51
Bethyidae	No. spp./ No. i.p.	-	1/1	1/3	1/1	-	1/5	1/5	1/13	1/4	1/22	1/27
	%	-	1.56	2.42	0.61	-	1.00	2.33	4.22	2.74	3.29	2.31
Chalcididae	No. spp./ No. i.p.	-	1/1	1/3	1/6	1/1	1/11	1/23	1/8	-	1/31	1/42
	%	-	1.56	2.42	3.66	0.82	2.2	10.7	2.6	-	4.63	3.59
Pteromalidae	No. spp./ No. i.p.	-	-	1/2	-	-	1/2	-	4/12	-	4/12	4/14
	%	-	-	1.61	-	-	0.4	-	3.9	-	1.79	1.2
Eulophidae	No. spp./ No. i.p.	-	1/3	1/1	-	1/12	1/16	1/3	-	1/1*	1/4	1/20
	%	-	4.69	0.81	-	9.84	3.19	1.4	-	0.69	0.52	1.7
Elasmidae	No. spp./ No. i.p.	-	-	-	1/1	-	1/1	-	-	1/1*	1/1	1/2
	%	-	-	-	0.61	-	0.2	-	-	0.34	0.07	0.13
Tachinidae	No. spp./ No. i.p.	-	1/2	1/2	2/8	2/11	2/23	1/3	2/6	2/4	2/13	2/36
	%	-	3.13	1.61	4.88	9.02	4.6	1.4	1.95	2.74	1.94	3.08

* A case of multiple parasitism

Legend:

No. of ind. = number of collected larvae and pupae;

No. of ind. par. (No. i.p.) = number of larvae and pupae parasitized;

No. spp. = number of primary parasitoids species.

Ștef.= Ștefănești vineyard

Dăb.= Dăbuleni vineyard

Thus, over the period 2000-2001, the number of species of primary parasitoids and hyperparasitoids was much higher in Dăbuleni (19), where a numerous host population was to be found, as compared to that in Ștefănești (10); there, the action of the populations was much more efficient, as illustrated by the parasitizing ratios of the primary parasitoids.

In 2002, the parasitizing ratio was dramatically reduced in Dăbuleni, on account of the fact that the insecticide treatment applied in June affects, once with the host species, its parasitoids as well, so all the parasitoids obtained were larval, *D. germanicum* (Horst.), *G. claripennis* (Först.), *C. florus* (Walk.), *E. viridiceps* Thoms., and larval-pupal, *N. maculosa* (Meig.) and *P. nigrolineata* (Walk.).

In Ștefănești, since the local conditions are favorable to the host, the parasitoids become more active, so that, in addition to the diversification of the number of species, an increase in the value of parasitism occurs. An increase in the pest population is found, which will be conducive to the augmentation of the host–primary parasitoid–hyperparasitoid relationships, from 6 in 2000 to 12 in 2002. After the year 2010, the interests of real estate developers from Ștefănești and the economic difficulties from Research - Development Center for Field Crops on Sandy Soils Dăbuleni, led to

the loss of many vineyards, which affected the *S. pilleriana* (Den. Et Schiff.) populations, and implicitly host-parasitoid relationships.

The secondary parasitoids complex of *Goniozus claripennis* (Först.)

In France, Voukassovitch (1924) investigated the parasitoids of this host and obtained 6 species of calcidoids as secondary parasitoids: *Pteromalus cupreus* Nees, *P. chrysos* (Walk.), *Cyclogastrella deplanata* (Nees), *Catolaccus ater* (Ratzb.) (Pteromalidae), *Eupelmus urozonus* Dalm. (Eupelmidae), and *Elasmus flabellatus* (Fonsc.) (Elasmidae).

In our study, the rearing in laboratory have highlighted 4 species in the parasitoid complex of *G. claripennis* (Först.): *C. ater* (Ratzb.), *Elasmus viridiceps* Thoms., *Elasmus* spp., and *Eupelmus vesicularis* (Retz.) (Table 3).

C. ater (Ratzb.) was obtained as a pupal, solitary, secondary endoparasitoid in Dăbuleni/27.06.2000/10.07.2000/1♂ and reduced the host population with 1.19%. In Romania, this parasitoid was obtained from *Cotesia* (=Apanteles) *glomerata* (L.) cocoons, in the parasitoid complex of *Pieris brassicae* (L.) (Andriescu, 1972-1973).

E. viridiceps Thoms. was obtained as a larval, solitary, secondary ectoparasitoid in Dăbuleni/9.05.2000/1♀; 5.07.2001/1♀. In Romania, this parasitoid was obtained as primary parasitoid on the *Rhopobota naevana* (Hb.), *Pandemis heparana* (Den. et Schiff.), and *Adoxophyes orana* (Fisch. v Rösl.) larvae (Diaconu, 1999).

Table 3. Importance of secondary parasitoids in parasitizing of *Goniozus claripennis* (Först.) larvae

Vineyard		Dăbuleni				Ștefănești			
Year		2000	2001	2002	Total	2000	2001	2002	Total
No. of host larvae		18	57	9	84	2	10	2	14
No. of larvae parasitized		2	1	2	5	0	0	1	1
(%)		11.11	1.75	22.22	5.95	0	0	50.00	7.14
<i>Catolaccus ater</i>	No.	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
	%	5.56	-	-	1.19	-	-	-	-
<i>Elasmus</i> spp.	No.	-	-	2	2	-	-	-	-
	%	-	-	22.22	2.38	-	-	-	-
<i>Elasmus viridiceps</i>	No.	1	1	-	2	-	-	-	-
	%	5.56	1.75	-	2.38	-	-	-	-
<i>Eupelmus vesicularis</i>	No.	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
	%	-	-	-	-	-	-	50.00	7.14

Elasmus spp. was obtained as a larval, solitary, secondary ectoparasitoid in Dăbuleni/27.05.2002/12.06.2002/1♀; 27.05.2002/13.06.2002/1♂.

E. vesicularis (Retz.) was obtained as a pupal, solitary, secondary endoparasitoid in Ștefănești/28.06.2002/1♀. In Romania, it was obtained from *Macrocentrus pallipes* (Nees) cocoons (Diaconu, 1999).

According to our observations, these parasitoids reduced the *G. claripennis* (Först.) populations with 6.12%.

4. CONCLUSIONS

In the vineyards situated in southern Romania, the populations of *S. pilleriana* (Den. et Schiff.) are controlled by 29 species of primary parasitoids and hyperparasitoids, which ensure a 20.77% reduction of the host population. The species *B. tibialis* (Walk.), *N. maculosa* (Meig.), *D. germanicum* (Horst.) and *G. claripennis* (Först.) are prevalent. In point of family, the Ichneumonidae have the greatest contribution to the reduction of the pest.

In Dăbuleni, a stable biocoenosis can be found up to the year 2002, characterized by a high number of species of parasitoids (19); subsequently, parasitism was drastically reduced thanks to chemical treatments. In Ștefănești, beginning with 2000, the favorable climate and the lack of chemical treatments determines an increase in the pest population, which will lead to an increase in the host–primary parasitoid–hyperparasitoid relationships, i.e. from 6 in 2000 to 12 in 2002. After the year 2010, a great part of the vineyards was removed, which led to affect the population of this pest, as the parasitoids species searched for alternative hosts.

Thirty-three new host–parasitoid relationships were established: 11 host–primary parasitoid relationships new to science and 12 relationships new for Romania, five primary parasitoid–secondary parasitoid relationships new to science, and five relationships new for Romania.

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