

TABLE I

*Different parasites of Plutella xylostella, their intensity and period of activity*

Family	Parasite	Period of activity	% parasitism	Remarks
Braconidae	<i>Apanteles plutellae</i> Kurdj.	July-March	5.0-71.7	Solitary
"	<i>Apanteles</i> sp. ( <i>glomeratus</i> gr.)	July-Sept.	2.0-12.5	"
"	<i>Bracon</i> sp.	July-Sept.	7.6-11.4	"
"	<i>Bracon gelechiae</i> Ashm.	Feb.-March	10.2-13.8	Gregarious
Ichneumonidae	<i>Mesochorus</i> sp.	July-Sept.	2.5- 8.3	Solitary

Of the five parasites reared during the present investigation, three parasites namely, *Bracon* sp., *B. gelechiae* and *Mesochorus* sp. are new records on *Plutella*, while the remaining two are already known to occur (Patel and Patel<sup>1</sup>).

The maximum parasitism by *B. gelechiae*, *Bracon* sp. and *Mesochorus* sp. was 13.8%, 11.4% and 8.3%, respectively. It was observed that all the five parasites were active more or less simultaneously in the field. However, *A. plutellae* was the predominant parasite in this area (Yadav *et al.*<sup>2</sup>), giving upto 71.7% parasitism.

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Gujarat Agricultural University, D. N. YADAV.  
 Anand Campus, Anand, R. C. PATEL.  
 October 27, 1978. T. M. MANJUNATH.\*

\* Present Address: Jr. Entomologist, University of Agricultural Sciences, Regional Research Station, V.C. Farm, Mandya (Karnataka).

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#### INTERFERTILITY STUDY OF *HEXAGONIA SULCATA* BERK.

NOBLES<sup>1</sup> pointed out the importance of interfertility studies in the taxonomy of Polyporaceae. Although the type of interfertility of a great many polypores have been determined<sup>2,3</sup>, *Hexagonia sulcata* Berk. has not been studied, so far, from this point of view. The present paper gives the result of interfertility test of *H. sulcata*, a common polypore of India.

The sporophore of *H. sulcata* was collected from Birbhum, West Bengal, India, on a dead wood of *Shorea robusta* Caern. Twentyfive monosporous cultures were isolated from this sporophore. Twenty monosporous cultures were paired among themselves in all possible combinations on 2.5% malt agar slants. The culture tubes containing paired inocula were incubated at room temperature ( $28 \pm 2^\circ$  C) for about a fortnight and then the hyphae from the line of contact between the paired mycelia were examined for clamp connections.

The results of pairing showed that the single spore cultures from one sporophore of *H. sulcata* fall into two groups on the basis of their ability to form clamp connections. Therefore, *Hexagonia sulcata* is heterothallic and possesses bipolar type of interfertility. The genetic constitutions of the two groups have been designated as A<sub>1</sub> and A<sub>2</sub>. The number and distribution of the monosporous cultures in each mating group are:

A<sub>1</sub>: 1, 2, 5, 7, 8, 9, 14, 17, 18, 19, 25

A<sub>2</sub>: 3, 4, 6, 12, 15, 16, 21, 22, 24.

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Botany Department,  
 Burdwan University,  
 Burdwan (W.B.),  
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A. B. DE.

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