

SPECIES COMPOSITION AND NATURAL MORTALITY FACTORS OF  
GENUS EUXOA FEEDING ON PEPPERMINT AND ALFALFA IN CENTRAL OREGON

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In late April 1981, ca. 100 larvae from each of two crops, alfalfa and peppermint, grown in central Oregon, were collected and reared in the laboratory. Larvae were placed on a lima bean artificial diet and kept at ambient lab temperatures. Six species were identified, three of which occurred together in both mint and alfalfa. E. idahoensis was collected only from alfalfa. E. perfusca and E. catenula were collected only from peppermint. There was considerable larval mortality. Several factors contributed to the mortality during the course of the rearing study including the following:

1. Shock of transportation from field to lab.
2. Poor adjustment to artificial diet.
3. Parasites
  - a. Campoletis sp.
  - b. Copidosoma sp.
4. Pathogens
 

virus: granulosis (Baculovirus subgroup B)

Alfalfa		Peppermint	
larvae collected April 30, 1981		larvae collected April 28, 29, 1981	
Fort Rock, OR		Madras, OR	
<u>Species</u>	<u># adults</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u># adults</u>
<u>E. oblongistigma</u> Sm.	10	<u>E. ochrogaster</u> (Guenee)	10
<u>E. ochrogaster</u> (Guenee)	1	<u>E. septentrionalis</u> Wlk.	4
<u>E. septentrionalis</u> Wlk.	1	<u>E. perfusca</u> Grt.	1
<u>E. idahoensis</u> Grt.	1	<u>E. oblongistigma</u> Sm.	1
Total	13	<u>E. catenula</u> Grt.	1
		Total	17

First adult emergence of E. ochrogaster occurred June 6 with peak emergence June 11, 12, 13. E. oblongistigma adults emerged ca. June 30. E. septentrionalis followed with a July 6th emergence. The single E. catenula adult emerged at the end of July ca. 31st.

Determinations were based on comparisons with museum specimens at the Department of Entomology, O.S.U. and Oregon Department of Agriculture, Plant Division. E. oblongistigma was determined by S. Jewett, lepidopterist, residing in Gladstone, Oregon.