

Section III
Biological & Cultural Control

FOREIGN EXPLORATION OF THE CEREAL LEAF BEETLE (*OULEMA MELANOPUS*)
NATURAL ENEMIES, ESPECIALLY EGG PARASITIDS, IN CHINA FOR POTENTIAL
EXPORTATION TO THE USA

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This was the second year of a proposed three-year foreign exploration project to search for cereal leaf beetle natural enemies in China. The US scientist (Bai) traveled to China during June 19 to July 13 and collected extensively with Chinese collaborators in one southern and two northern provinces. One new province visited this year was Fujian in the southeastern China. New contacts were also established in Shanghai and Fujian for future cooperative works. In each province, the local Chinese collaborators had surveyed the relevant fields before the arrival of the US scientist. The US/China team collected in the fields of rice in Fujian, spring wheat in Xinjiang and millet in Shaanxi. The rice leaf beetle *Oulema oryzae* and its egg parasitoid *Anaphes nipponicus* were collected from Fujian (parasitism 39-50%, n=1442 eggs). Several thousands of eggs and larvae of the cereal leaf beetle were collected from Xinjiang but only six parasitic fly emerged from larvae. About 500 eggs and 300 larvae of the millet leaf beetle *Oulema tristis* were collected from Shaanxi. Just one parasitic wasp was emerged from a larva. Data indicate that Fujian is the most promising place for egg parasitoids and should be the focus for future years if foreign exploration continues.

Places visited in China (*)



Collecting in rice field in Fujian