

P03-01

**Survey of native *Trichogramma*-species in the olive grove ecosystem.**

**Annette Herz<sup>1</sup>, Sherif A. Hassan<sup>1</sup>, Esmat Hegazi<sup>2</sup>, Bahaa Hafez<sup>2</sup>, Feeby Nasr<sup>3</sup>, Ali Youssef<sup>3</sup>, Essam Agamy<sup>4</sup>, Taieb Jardak<sup>5</sup>, Mohieddine Ksantini<sup>5</sup>, T. Broumas<sup>6</sup>, P. Milonas<sup>6</sup>, T. Moschos<sup>6</sup>, C. Souliotis<sup>6</sup>, Laura Torres<sup>7</sup>, Jose Alberto Pereira<sup>8</sup>, Albino Bento<sup>8</sup>**

**1) Biolog. Bundesanstalt für Land- und Forstwirtschaft, Heinrichstr. 243, D-64287 Darmstadt, Germany, 2) University of Alexandria, Alexandria, Egypt, 3) Plant Protection Research Institute, Alexandria, Egypt, 4) International Company of Bioagriculture, Giza, Egypt, 5) Institute de L'Olivier, 3018 Sfax, Tunisia 6) Benaki Phytopathological Institute, Athens, Greece 7) Universidade de Tras-os-Montes e Alto Douro, Vila Real, Portugal, 8) Escola Superior Agraria de Bragança, Bragança, Portugal**

Native *Trichogramma*-species were collected by weekly exposure of sentinel eggs (depending on availability: *Sitotroga cerealella*, *Ephestia kuehniella*, *Palpita unionalis*) in several olive groves in Portugal, Greece, Egypt and Tunisia from 2002 to 2004. The data obtained suggest a low species diversity of the *Trichogramma*-fauna in the olive grove ecosystem. *T. cacoeciae* was collected in Portugal, Tunisia and Egypt. *T. bourarachae* was collected in Tunisia and Egypt and an unidentified species close to *T. bourarachae* in Portugal. *T. cordubensis* was successfully collected in Egypt in a newly established olive plantation near Cairo from eggs of the jasmine moth, *Palpita unionalis*. The collected species/strains were characterized and compared by molecularbiological methods. Their potential role for use in biological control of olive pests is discussed.