

✓ PDE35 Evaluation of parasitism of red gum lerp psyllid by *Psyllaephagus bliteus* (Hymenoptera: Encyrtidae) after sequential releases in *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* plantation

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The red gum lerp psyllid *Glycaspis brimblecombei* (Hemiptera: Psyllidae) is considered one of the main pests of this crop introduced in Brazil and other countries. The psyllid specific parasitic wasp *Psyllaephagus bliteus* Riek (Hymenoptera: Encyrtidae) is indicated as the main biological control agent of this pest. Due to its economic importance, this study aimed to evaluate *G. brimblecombei* and *P. bliteus* population in *Eucalyptus camaldulensis* plantations to determine parasitism rates in the field after sequential releases of *P. bliteus*. The study was carried out on *E. camaldulensis* plantations in 19 ha area in Luiz Antônio municipality (SP, Brazil), from January 2006 to January 2008. The parasitoids was reared in laboratory conditions and transported to field area to proceed the field releases. After this, the parasitoids were carried to experiment area in plastic vials, where it was released 20 couples in each one of five block points and no releases in other side of the block, as check area. It was performed 8 releases among May to September, 2006 (4 releases) and 2007 (4 releases) in periods of, approximately, 20 days. It was choose 10 trees randomized in each release point and collected 10 leaves/tree. In laboratory, it was evaluated the number of health and parasitizing nymphs in these leaves. It was verified that parasitism rates increased significantly in regular parasitoids releases comparing with no releases area. However, the parasitism reduced after 30 to 40 days. It was demonstrated that *P. bliteus* effectively depend of regular releases during the redgum lerp psyllid outbreaks.