

## BIONOMICS OF *BEMISIA AFER* (HEMIPTERA : ALEYRODIDIAE) A NEW PEST OF *CITRUS AURANTIUM* VAR. *AMARA* IN EGYPT

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### Abstract

The sycamore whitefly, *Bemisia afer* (Priesner and Hosny) (Hemiptera : Aleyrodidae) attacked different economic host plants and distributed all over the world. The present work is to record and study host plants, distribution, natural enemies , seasonal abundance on *Citrus aurantium* var. *amara* of the concerned species. The study of host plants, distribution and natural enemies of *B. afer* was done through collection of samples from different host plants found at different localities in Egypt. Seasonal abundance of *B. afer* and its parasitoid were carried out on *Citrus aurantium* var. *amara* in Behira Governorate during 2005 to 2006. During the present work 43 host plants were recorded as infested by *B. afer* in Egypt . This species were distributed in 19 Egyptian Governorates. This species also was recorded associated with 6 natural enemies (5 parasitoids and one predator ). *B. afer* has two peaks of abundance during mid of August (7932/30 leaves) and mid of November ( 10296/30 leaves ) in the first year. In the mean time, the second year also had two peaks during mid of August (7300/30 leaves) and mid of November ( 9204/30 leaves ). The highest percent of parasitism by *Encarsia lutea* (Masi) (Hymenoptera : Aphelinidae) was recorded in November 2005 and 2006 ( 15.9 % and 23.4%, respectively). While the average parasitism rates were 5.7 and 8.9% during the two successive years, respectively.

### INTRODUCTION

The sycamore whitefly, *Bemisia afer* (Priesner and Hosny) (Hemiptera : Aleyrodidae) is one of whitefly species that exerts a lot of taxonomic confusion among the different species (Anderson *et al.* , 2001). It attacks different economic host plants e.g. citrus, guava, cotton and ornamental plants, all over the wide area of distribution (Bink-Moenen, 1983). The sycamore whitefly, *B. afer* attacks about 50 host plants in 14 countries all over the world (Evans, 2007). It is parasitized by two species of parasitoids, namely *Eretmocerus* sp. and *Encarsia lutea* (Masi) (Hymenoptera : Aphelinidae ) ( Abd-Rabou, 1999). Abd-Rabou and Ahmed (2007) recorded this species attacking *Citrus aurantium* var. *amara* for the first time in Egypt. Eminent workers of the world were attracted to carry on variable investigations on the species (Priesner and Hosny, 1934, Habib and Farag, 1970, Mound and Halsey, 1978, Martin, 1987 and Abd-Rabou, 1996, 1997 and 1999).

The aim of the present work is to record and study host plants, distribution, natural enemies and seasonal abundance on *Citrus aurantium* var. *amara* of the concerned species.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study of host plants, distribution and natural enemies of *B. afer* was done through collection of samples from different host plants found at different localities and that are liable to the insect inhabit in Egypt .

### 1. Host plants and distribution of *Bemisia afer* in Egypt

A survey of host plants and distribution was carried out all over Egypt during 2005-2006. Infested plants with *B. afer* were examined in the field, using a pocket lens. Leaves and stems were collected and placed separately in paper bags for further examination in the laboratory.

### 2. Survey of the *Bemisia afer* natural enemies in Egypt

Infested leaves with *B. afer* had been examined in the field, using a pocket lens. The parts of the plant from different crops will be collected and placed separately in paper bags for further examination in the laboratory. Materials will be kept in a well-ventilated container until the emergence adult of any natural enemies. Identification of natural enemies will be made by examining by mounted adults in Hoyers medium and on card as follows: The specimens of natural enemies are best preserved as slide mounts and card. It may not be possible to see all the characters and measure some structures in carded specimens. However, when more specimens are available, it is preferable to have both slide mounted and carded specimens. Since body colour is likely to fade during clearing process, it might be necessary to note the colour and sculpture either from dried or freshly collected specimens preserved in alcohol. The smaller size of the specimens and their soft, less sclerotized bodies, make the specimens almost useless for study if preserved in alcohol for longer periods. Dried specimens are soaked in glacial acetic acid (7 drops) mixed with chloral phenol (5 drops) in small watch glasses.

- a. After 48 hours specimens should be satisfactorily cleared.
- b. The cleared specimens are then mounted in Hoyer's medium.

After drying for about two weeks under 40 °C, the slide cover is ringed with a suitable sealer.

### 3. Seasonal abundance of *Bemisia afer* on *Citrus aurantium* var. *amara*

Seasonal abundance of *B. afer* was carried out on *Citrus aurantium* var. *amara* in Behira Governorate during 2005 to 2006. The plant area selected for these

investigations received no chemical control measures for several years. About 10 trees of *Citrus* sp. almost similar in age, shape, size and growth conditions were randomly chosen for sampling two times a month at biweekly intervals. On each sampling, 30 leaves were chosen at random. Thereafter, the leaves were kept in a closed paper bags and transferred to the laboratory to estimate the total number of eggs, larvae , adult per 30 leaves of each sample by the aid of binocular microscope where the number of eggs, larvae and adult of the *B. afer* were counted per one leaf .

Records of the meteorological factors, mainly the daily means of minimum (D.Min.T.), maximum (D. Max.T.) temperatures and relative humidity (D.M.R.H.), were obtained from the Meteorological Department records. The daily records of these factors were recalculated to get the daily averages within two weeks prior to sampling date.

Simple correlation and regression values were calculated to obtain information about the relationships between the three tested weather factors and the population of *B. afer* .

#### **4. Seasonal abundance of *Bemisia afer* parasitoid on *Citrus aurantium* var. *amara* in Egypt**

The abundance of parasitoid of *B. afer* on *Citrus aurantium* var. *amara* was carried out from 2005 to 2006 on citrus trees in Behira. The location was heavily infested by *B. afer* were selected to achieve investigations and were sampled monthly. During the study, no chemical control for the pest was performed on these trees. In the location 10 trees were selected randomly for sampling. Units of sampling consisted of 30 leaves. These were detached off and brought to the laboratory for inspection. Each leaf was stored in a well-ventilated emergence glass tube and monitored daily for parasitoid emergence. Rate of parasitism was determined by dividing the number of emerging parasitoid from each by the number of hosts scale existing.

Simple correlation and regression values were calculated to obtain information about the relationships between the three tested weather factors and the population of *B. afer* parasitoid. Also the same values were calculated to obtain information about the relationships between the populations of *B. afer* and its parasitoid.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **1. Host plants and distribution of *Bemisia afer* in Egypt**

During the present work 43 host plant were recorded infested with *B. afer* in Egypt . This species distributed in 19 Egyptian governorate (Table,1).

## 2. Natural enemies of *Bemisia afer* in Egypt

This species was recorded associated with 6 natural enemies (5 parasitoids and one predator) (Table, 2).

## 3. Seasonal abundance of the population of *Bemisia afer* on *Citrus aurantium* var. *amara* in Egypt

The seasonal abundance of *B. afer* was studied for two successive years from 2005-2006 on *Citrus aurantium* var. *amara* trees in Behira Governorate. The obtained results in Figs (1 and 2) showed that, the insect population had two peaks of abundance during mid of August (7932/30 leaves) and mid of November (10296/30 leaves) in the first year. In the mean time, the second year also had two peaks during mid of August (7300/30 leaves) and the Mid of November (9204/30 leaves). The effects of nine weather factors on the population of *B. afer* were explained below:

### 3.1. Effect of the biweekly maximum temperature

The simple correlation coefficient between the maximum temperature and the mean number of eggs of *B. afer* was significantly positive in the first season (2005) but this relation was highly significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.57$ ) and ( $r = 0.65$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. While biweekly mean number of immature stages and the maximum of the biweekly temperature was significantly positive in the first season (2005) also, this relation was significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.51$ ) and ( $r = 0.61$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. On the other hand, the biweekly mean number of adult stages and the maximum of the biweekly temperature was non-significantly positive in the first season (2005) but this relation was significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.32$ ) and ( $r = 0.63$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. Finally, the biweekly mean number of total numbers of stages and the maximum of the biweekly temperature was significantly positive in the first season (2005) also this relation was highly significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.54$ ) and ( $r = 0.65$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively.

In addition, the partial regression between the maximum temperature and the counted number of eggs which was significant ( $b = 0.33$ ) and ( $b = 0.44$ ) in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> seasons, respectively, also the maximum temperature and the counted number of immature stages was significant ( $b = 0.26$ ) and ( $b = 0.38$ ) in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> seasons, respectively. The maximum temperature and the counted number of adult stages was non-significant in the first year, while was significant in the second season ( $b = 0.17$ ) and ( $b = 0.41$ ) in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> seasons, respectively. The maximum temperature and the counted number of total number of *B. afer* was significant ( $b = 0.30$ ) and ( $b = 0.44$ ) in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> years, respectively.

### 3.2. Effect of the biweekly minimum temperature

The simple correlation coefficient between the minimum temperature and the mean number of eggs of *B. afer* was highly significantly positive in the first season (2005) but this relation was significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.67$ ) and ( $r = 0.47$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. While biweekly mean number of immature stages and the minimum of the biweekly temperature was significantly positive in the first season (2005) also, this relation was significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.61$ ) and ( $r = 0.48$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. On the other hand, the biweekly mean number of adult stages and the minimum of the biweekly temperature was significantly positive in the first season (2005) also this relation was significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.47$ ) and ( $r = 0.59$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. Finally, the biweekly mean number of total numbers of stages and the minimum of the biweekly temperature was highly significantly positive in the first season (2005) also this relation was significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.65$ ) and ( $r = 0.50$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively.

In addition, the partial regression between the minimum temperature and the counted number of eggs which was significant in the 1<sup>st</sup> season and highly significant in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season ( $b = 0.46$ ) and ( $b = 0.53$ ), respectively, also the minimum temperature and the counted number of immature stages was significant ( $b = 0.39$ ) and ( $b = 0.47$ ) in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> seasons, respectively. The minimum temperature and the counted number of adult stages was non-significant in the first year, while was significant in the second season ( $b = 0.22$ ) and ( $b = 0.47$ ) in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> seasons, respectively. The minimum temperature and the counted number of total number of *B. afer* was significant in the first year, while was highly significant in the second season ( $b = 0.44$ ) and ( $b = 0.53$ ), respectively.

### 3.3. Effect of the biweekly mean temperature

The simple correlation coefficient between the mean temperature and the mean number of eggs of *B. afer* was highly significantly positive in the first season (2005) but this relation was significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.63$ ) and ( $r = 0.57$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. While biweekly mean number of immature stages and the mean of the biweekly temperature was significantly positive in the first season (2005) also, this relation was significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.57$ ) and ( $r = 0.55$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. On the other hand, the biweekly mean number of adult stages and the mean of the biweekly temperature was non-significantly in the first season (2005) while this relation was highly significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.40$ ) and ( $r = 0.63$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. Finally, the biweekly mean number of total numbers of stages

and the mean of the biweekly temperature was significantly positive in the first season (2005) also this relation was significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.60$ ) and ( $r = 0.58$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively.

In addition, the partial regression between the mean temperature and the counted number of eggs which was significant in the 1<sup>st</sup> season and highly significant in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season ( $b = 0.39$ ) and ( $b = 0.48$ ), respectively, also the mean temperature and the counted number of immature stages was significant ( $b = 0.32$ ) and ( $b = 0.42$ ) in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> seasons, respectively. The mean temperature and the counted number of adult stages was non-significant in the first year, while was significant in the second season ( $b = 0.18$ ) and ( $b = 0.42$ ) in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> seasons, respectively. The mean temperature and the counted number of total number of *B. afer* was significant in the first and in the second seasons ( $b = 0.37$ ) and ( $b = 0.48$ ), respectively.

#### **3.4. Effect of the biweekly maximum R.H.**

The simple correlation coefficient between the maximum R.H. and the mean number of eggs of *B. afer* was non-significantly positive in the first season (2005) but this relation was negative highly significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.35$ ) and ( $r = -0.71$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. While biweekly mean number of immature stages and the mean of the biweekly maximum R.H. was non-significantly in the first season (2005) also, this relation was negative highly-significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.33$ ) and ( $r = -0.66$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. On the other hand, the biweekly mean number of adult stages and the mean of the biweekly maximum R.H. was non-significantly positive in the first season (2005) but this relation was negative significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.44$ ) and ( $r = -0.51$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. Finally, the biweekly mean number of total numbers of stages and the mean of the biweekly maximum R.H. was non-significantly positive in the first season (2005) also this relation was negative non-significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.36$ ) and ( $r = -0.69$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively.

In addition, the partial regression between the maximum R.H. and the counted number of eggs which was non-significant in the 1<sup>st</sup> season and highly significant in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season ( $b = 0.21$ ) and ( $b = 0.51$ ), respectively, also the maximum R.H. and the counted number of immature stages was non-significant in the 1<sup>st</sup> season, while was significant in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season ( $b = 0.22$ ) and ( $b = 0.44$ ), respectively. The maximum R.H. and the counted number of adult stages was significant in the first and in the second season ( $b = 0.26$ ) and ( $b = 0.26$ ) in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> seasons, respectively. The maximum R.H. and the counted number of total number of *B. afer*

was non-significant in the first and highly significant in the second seasons ( $b = 0.23$ ) and ( $b = 0.48$ ), respectively.

### 3.5. Effect of the biweekly minimum R.H.

The simple correlation coefficient between the minimum R.H. and the mean number of eggs of *B. afer* was highly significantly positive in the first season (2005) but this relation was negative non-significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.55$ ) and ( $r = -0.019$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. While biweekly mean number of immature stages and the mean of the biweekly minimum R.H. was significantly positive in the first season (2005) also, this relation was non-significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.56$ ) and ( $r = 0.07$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. On the other hand, the biweekly mean number of adult stages and the mean of the biweekly minimum R.H. was significantly positive in the first season (2005) also this relation was non-significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.67$ ) and ( $r = 0.13$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. Finally, the biweekly number of total numbers of stages and the mean of the biweekly minimum R.H. was significantly positive in the first season (2005) also this relation was non-significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.58$ ) and ( $r = 0.026$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively.

In addition, the partial regression between the minimum R.H. and the counted number of eggs which was significant in the 1<sup>st</sup> season and non-significant in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season ( $b = 0.47$ ) and ( $b = 0.001$ ), respectively, also the minimum R.H. and the counted number of immature stages was significant in the 1<sup>st</sup> season, while was non-significant in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season ( $b = 0.45$ ) and ( $b = 0.012$ ), respectively. The minimum R.H. and the counted number of adult stages was significant in the first and non-significant in the second season ( $b = 0.45$ ) and ( $b = 0.10$ ) in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> seasons, respectively. The minimum R.H. and the counted number of total number of *B. afer* was significant in the first and highly non-significant in the second seasons ( $b = 0.48$ ) and ( $b = 0.05$ ), respectively.

### 3.6. Effect of the biweekly mean R.H.

The simple correlation coefficient between the mean R.H. and the mean number of eggs of *B. afer* was highly significantly positive in the first season (2005) but this relation was negative non-significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.61$ ) and ( $r = -0.17$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. While biweekly mean number of immature stages and the mean of the biweekly R.H. was significantly positive in the first season (2005) also, this relation was non-significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.61$ ) and ( $r = -0.06$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. On the other hand, the biweekly mean number of adult stages and the mean of the biweekly R.H. was

significantly in the first season (2005) while this relation was non-significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.75$ ) and ( $r = 0.021$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. Finally, the biweekly mean number of total numbers of stages and the mean of the biweekly R.H. was significantly positive in the first season (2005) also this relation was non-significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.65$ ) and ( $r = -0.12$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively.

In addition, the partial regression between the mean R.H. and the counted number of eggs which was significant in the 1<sup>st</sup> season and non-significant in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season ( $b = 0.47$ ) and ( $b = 0.042$ ), respectively, also the mean R.H. and the counted number of immature stages was significant in the 1<sup>st</sup> season, while was non-significant in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season ( $b = 0.46$ ) and ( $b = 0.019$ ), respectively. The mean R.H. and the counted number of adult stages was significant in the first and non-significant in the second season ( $b = 0.57$ ) and ( $b = 0.001$ ) in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> seasons, respectively. The mean R.H. and the counted number of total number of *B. afer* was highly significant in the first and in the second seasons ( $b = 0.51$ ) and ( $b = 0.66$ ), respectively.

### **3.7. Effect of the biweekly maximum soil temperature**

The simple correlation coefficient between the maximum soil temperature and the mean number of eggs of *B. afer* was significantly positive in the first season (2005) but this relation was negative highly significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.56$ ) and ( $r = 0.61$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. While biweekly mean number of immature stages and the maximum of the biweekly soil temperature was significantly in the first season (2005) also, this relation was significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.50$ ) and ( $r = 0.58$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. On the other hand, the biweekly mean number of adult stages and the maximum of the biweekly soil temperature was non-significantly positive in the first season (2005) but this relation was significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.27$ ) and ( $r = 0.62$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. Finally, the biweekly mean number of total numbers of stages and the maximum of the biweekly soil temperature was significantly positive in the first season (2005) also this relation was negative significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.53$ ) and ( $r = 0.62$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively.

In addition, the partial regression between the maximum soil temperature and the counted number of eggs which was significant in the 1<sup>st</sup> season and highly significant in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season ( $b = 0.32$ ) and ( $b = 0.77$ ), respectively, also the maximum soil temperature and the counted number of immature stages was significant in the 1<sup>st</sup> season, while was highly significant in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season ( $b = 0.27$ ) and ( $b = 0.75$ ), respectively. The maximum soil temperature and the counted number of adult stages was significant in the first and highly significant in the second season



( $b = 0.24$ ) and ( $b = 0.84$ ) in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> seasons, respectively. The maximum soil temperature and the counted number of total number of *B. afer* was significant in the first and highly significant in the second seasons ( $b = 0.30$ ) and ( $b = 0.79$ ), respectively.

### **3.8. Effect of the biweekly minimum soil temperature**

The simple correlation coefficient between the minimum soil temperature and the mean number of eggs of *B. afer* was significantly positive in the first season (2005) but this relation was highly significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.58$ ) and ( $r = 0.74$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. While biweekly mean number of immature stages and the mean of the biweekly minimum soil temperature was significantly positive in the first season (2005) also, this relation was highly significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.52$ ) and ( $r = 0.72$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. On the other hand, the biweekly mean number of adult stages and the mean of the biweekly minimum soil temperature was non-significantly positive in the first season (2005) also this relation was significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.29$ ) and ( $r = 0.69$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. Finally, the biweekly mean number of total numbers of stages and the mean of the biweekly minimum soil temperature was significantly positive in the first season (2005) also this relation was highly significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.55$ ) and ( $r = 0.75$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively.

In addition, the partial regression between the minimum soil temperature and the counted number of eggs which was significant in the 1<sup>st</sup> season and highly significant in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season ( $b = 0.35$ ) and ( $b = 0.83$ ), respectively, also the minimum soil temperature and the counted number of immature stages was significant in the 1<sup>st</sup> season, while was highly significant in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season ( $b = 0.30$ ) and ( $b = 0.82$ ), respectively. The minimum soil temperature and the counted number of adult stages was significant in the first and highly significant in the second season ( $b = 0.27$ ) and ( $b = 0.86$ ) in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> seasons, respectively. The minimum soil temperature and the counted number of total number of *B. afer* was significant in the first and highly significant in the second seasons ( $b = 0.33$ ) and ( $b = 0.85$ ), respectively.

### **3.9. Effect of the biweekly mean soil temperature**

The simple correlation coefficient between the mean soil temperature and the mean number of eggs of *B. afer* was significantly positive in the first season (2005) also this relation was highly significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.57$ ) and ( $r = 0.63$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. While biweekly mean number of immature stages and the mean of the biweekly soil temperature was significantly positive in the first season (2005) also, this relation was highly significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.51$ ) and ( $r = 0.65$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. On the other hand, the biweekly mean number of adult stages and the

mean of the biweekly soil temperature was non-significantly in the first season (2005) while this relation was highly significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.28$ ) and ( $r = 0.66$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively. Finally, the biweekly mean number of total numbers of stages and the mean of the biweekly soil temperature was significantly positive in the first season (2005) also this relation was highly significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.54$ ) and ( $r = 0.68$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively.

In addition, the partial regression between the mean soil temperature and the counted number of eggs which was significant in the 1<sup>st</sup> season and highly significant in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season ( $b = 0.34$ ) and ( $b = 0.80$ ), respectively, also the mean soil temperature and the counted number of immature stages was significant in the 1<sup>st</sup> season, while was highly significant in the 2<sup>nd</sup> season ( $b = 0.28$ ) and ( $b = 0.78$ ), respectively. The mean soil temperature and the counted number of adult stages was significant in the first and highly significant in the second season ( $b = 0.27$ ) and ( $b = 0.84$ ) in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> seasons, respectively. The mean soil temperature and the counted number of total number of *B. afer* was significant in the first and highly significant in the second seasons ( $b = 0.32$ ) and ( $b = 0.81$ ), respectively.

#### **4. Seasonal abundance of natural enemy *Encarsia lutea* of *Bemisia afer* recorded on *Citrus aurantium* var. *amara* in Egypt**

*Bemisia afer* on *Citrus aurantium* var. *amara* in Behira governorate was parasitized by the only aphelinid parasitoid (natural enemy), *Encarsia lutea* (Masi) (Hymenoptera : Aphelinidae). The highest percent parasitism was recorded in November 2005 and 2006 (15.9 % and 23.4% respectively). While the average parasitism rates was 5.7 and 8.9% during the two successive years, respectively.

The partial regression between the mean number of aphelinid parasitoid, *E. lutea* and the mean number of immature stages was significant in the 1<sup>st</sup> and seasons of this study [( $b = 0.77$ ) and ( $b = 0.75$ ), respectively]. Similarly this relation was highly significant with the number of immature stages.

The simple correlation coefficient between the mean number of aphelinid parasitoid, *E. lutea* the mean number of immature stages was highly significantly positive in the first season (2005) also this relation was highly significant in the second season (2006) ( $r = 0.86$ ) and ( $r = 0.78$ ) in 2005 and 2006 seasons, respectively.

Table 1. Host plants and distribution of *Bemisia afer* in Egypt

Host Plant	Distribution[	Date of record
<i>Acacia nilotica</i>	Aswan	Jan.2005
<i>Adenodolichos paniculatus</i>	Behira	Nov.2006
<i>Albizia</i> sp.	Aswan	August, 2006
<i>Allophylus africanus</i>	Qalyubiya	September, 2005
<i>Annona senegalensis</i>	Assiut	January, 2006
<i>Anogeissus leiocarpus</i>	Kafer El-Shikh	Jan.2005
<i>Antidesma venosum</i>	El-Minya	Nov.2006
<i>Bridelia ferruginea</i>	Demyata	August, 2006
<i>Bombax costatum</i>	Behira	September, 2005
<i>Burkea Africana</i>	Qalyubiya	January, 2006
<i>Cassia siamea</i>	Kafer El-Shikh	Jan.2005
<i>Citrus limon</i>	Qalyubiya	Nov.2006
<i>C. senensis</i>	El-Minya	August, 2006
<i>Cochlospermum tintorium</i>	Assiut	September, 2005
<i>Combretum confertum</i>	Giza	January, 2006
<i>C. glutinosum</i>	Ismailia	Jan.2005
<i>C. hypopilinum</i>	Kafer El-Shikh	Nov.2006
<i>C. hypopilinum x micranthum</i>	Behira	August, 2006
<i>C. molle</i>	Assiut	September, 2005
<i>Commiphora pedunculata</i>	Ismailia	January, 2006
<i>Crossopteryx febrifuga</i>	Qalyubiya	August, 2005
<i>Daniellia olivera</i>	Giza	December, 2005
<i>Detarium microcarpum</i>	Assiut	August, 2006
<i>Dichrostachys glomerata</i>	Behira	September, 2005
<i>Entada Africana</i>	Kafer El-Shikh	May, 2006
<i>Ficus nitida</i>	Qalyubiya	April,2005
<i>F. sycamorus</i>	Sharqiya	May, 2006
<i>Gardenia tricantha</i>	Alexandria	August, 2006
<i>Gossypium hirsutum</i>	Behira	March, 2005
<i>Hexalobus monopetalus</i>	Beni-Suif	October, 2006
<i>Hibiscus asper</i>	Daqhilya	March, 2005
<i>Hymenocardia acida</i>	Demyata	August, 2006
<i>Isobertinia doka</i>	Giza	October, 2006
<i>Lannea schimperi</i>	Ismailia	November, 2005
<i>Lantana camara</i>	Behira	March, 2006
<i>Lawsonia inermis</i>	Assiut	April, 2005
<i>Lawsonia alba</i>	El-Minya	May, 2005
<i>Lichos paniculatus</i>	Menofia	April,2005
<i>Manihot esculenta</i>	Cairo	October, 2006
<i>Maytenus senegalensis</i>	Faiyum	March, 2006
<i>Nauclea latifolia</i>	Gharbiya	November, 2006
<i>Paullinia pinnata</i>	Matruh	March, 2006
<i>Piliostigma thonningii</i>	Sharqiya	March, 2006
<i>Pseudopachyrhiza</i> sp.	Port –Said	October, 2005

Table 1. Cont.

Host Plant	Distribution	Date of record
<i>Psidium guajava</i>	Matruh	October, 2006
<i>Pterocarpus lucens</i>	Faiyum	March, 2006
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	Beni-Suif	August, 2006
<i>Salix subserrata</i>	Assuit	October, 2006
<i>Stereospermum kunthianum</i>	Sharqiya	August, 2005
<i>Strychnos spinosa</i>	Sharqiya	March, 2005
<i>Terminalia laxiflora</i>	Behira	August, 2005
<i>Zizyphus spinachristi</i>	El-Minya	October, 2006

Table 2. Natuarl enemies :Natural enemies of *Bemisia afer* in Egypt

Parasitoids		
Family	species	Date
phelindae	<i>Encarsia lutea</i> (Masi)	Nov.2006
	<i>Encarsia sofia</i> Girault	August, 2006
	<i>Eretmocerus</i> sp.	September, 2005
	<i>Eretmocerus mundus</i> (Mercet)	September, 2005
	<i>Eretmocerus roseni</i> Gerling	October, 2006
Predators		
Family	species	Date
Coccinellidae	<i>Serangium</i> sp.	August, 2006

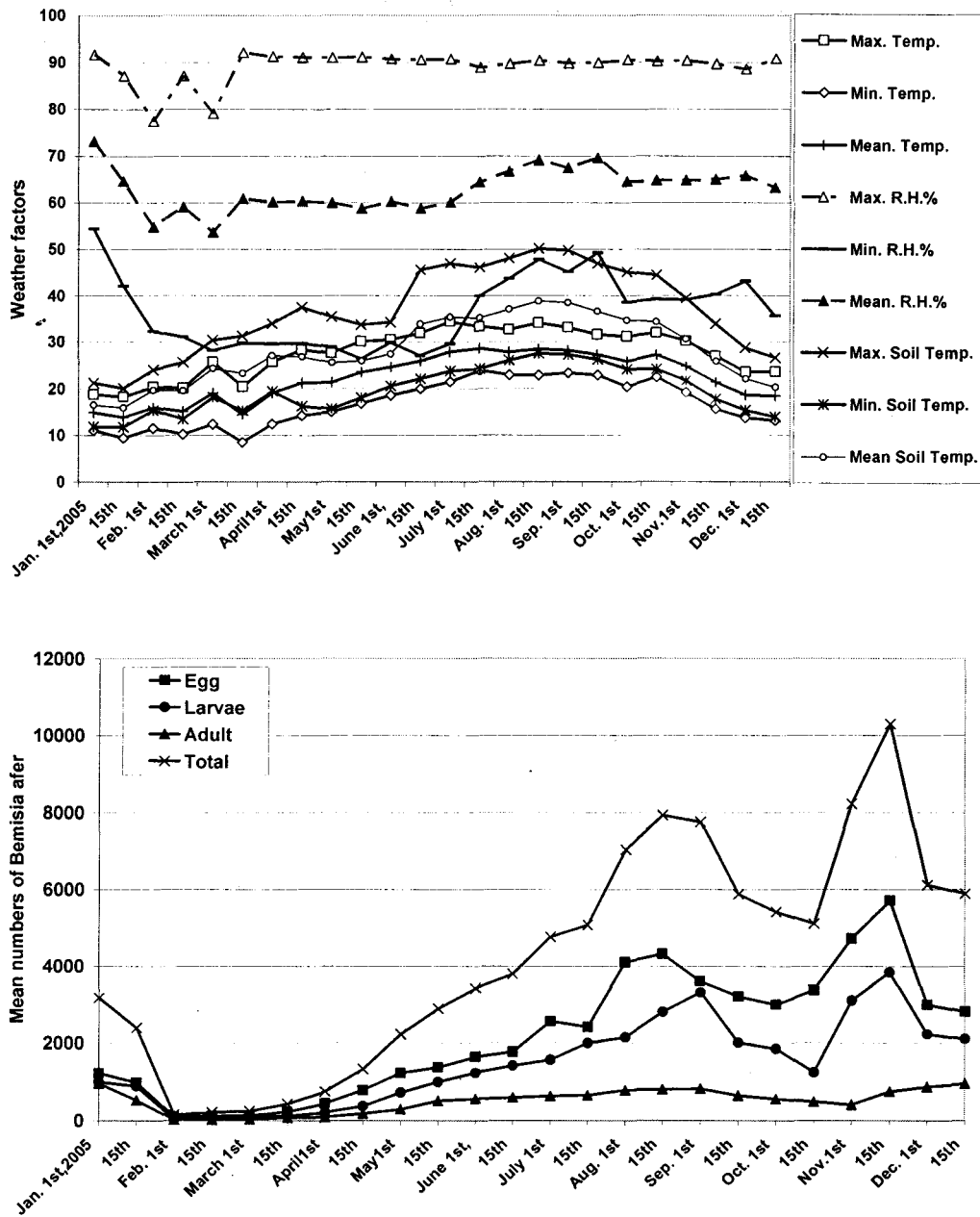


Fig. 1. Half monthly mean numbers of *Bemisia afer* on *Citrus aurantium* var. *amara* in Behira Governorate during 2005 year.

BIONOMICS OF *BEMISIA AFER* (HEMIPTERA : ALEYRODIDAE)  
 A NEW PEST OF *CITRUS AURANTIUM* VAR. *AMARA* IN EGYPT

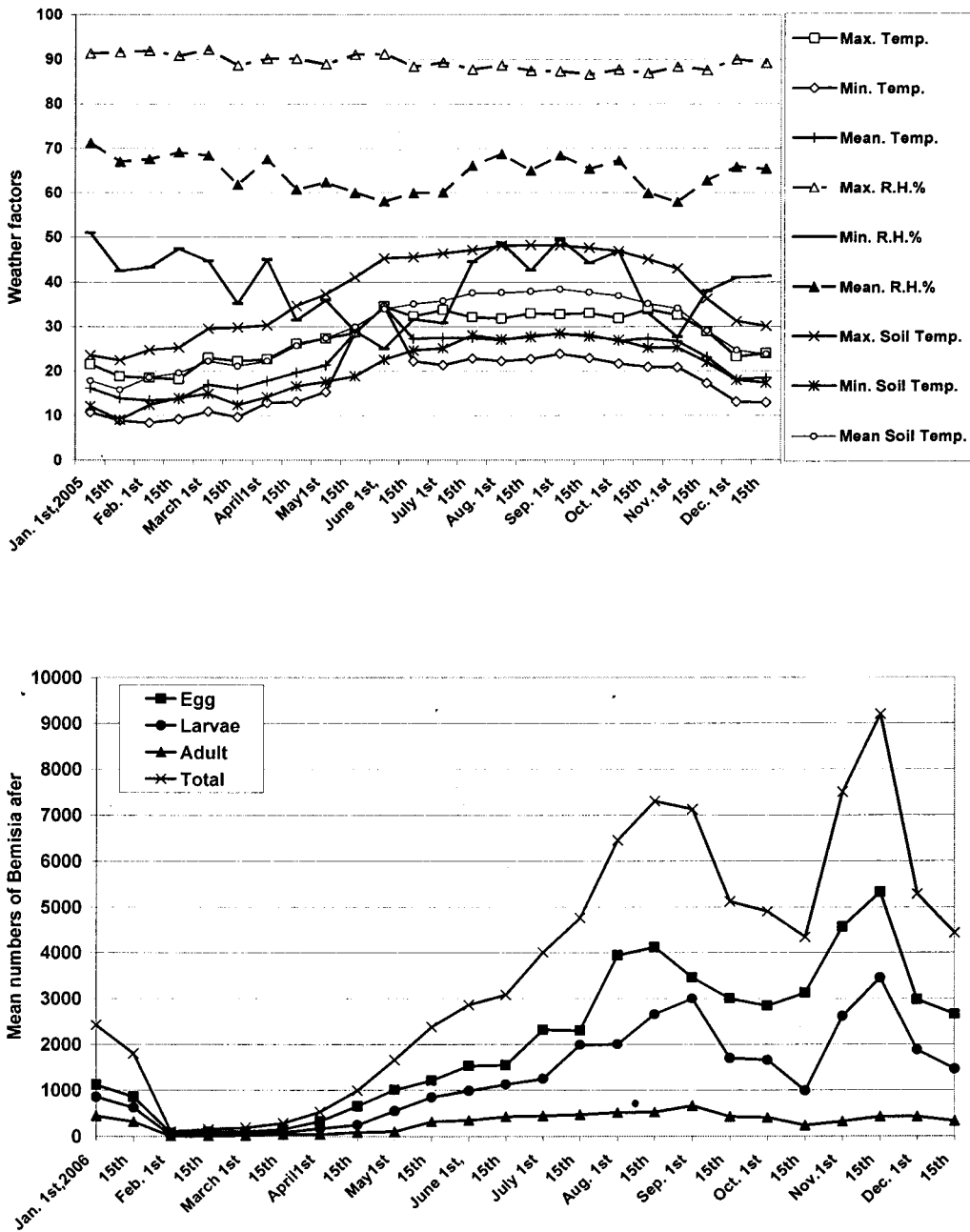


Fig. 2. Half monthly mean numbers of *Bemisia afer* on *Citrus aurantium* var. *amara* in Behira Governorate during 2006 year.

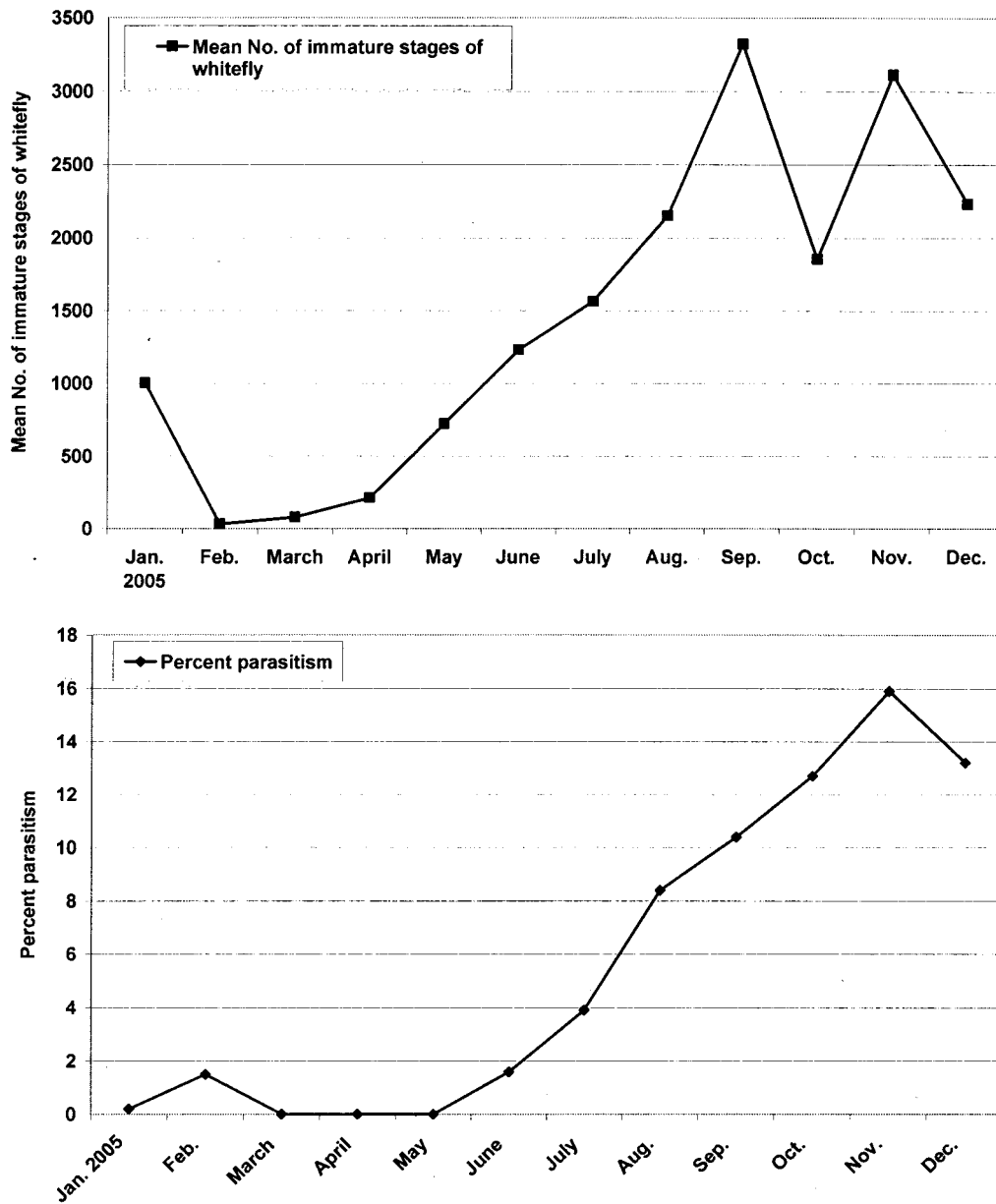


Fig. 3. Percent parasitism of *Bemisia afer* on *Citrus aurantium* var. *amara* in Behira governorate by aphelinid parasitoid, *Encarsia lutea* in relation to the weather factors during 2005 year.

BIONOMICS OF *BEMISIA AFER* (HEMIPTERA : ALEYRODIDAE)  
 A NEW PEST OF *CITRUS AURANTIUM* VAR. *AMARA* IN EGYPT

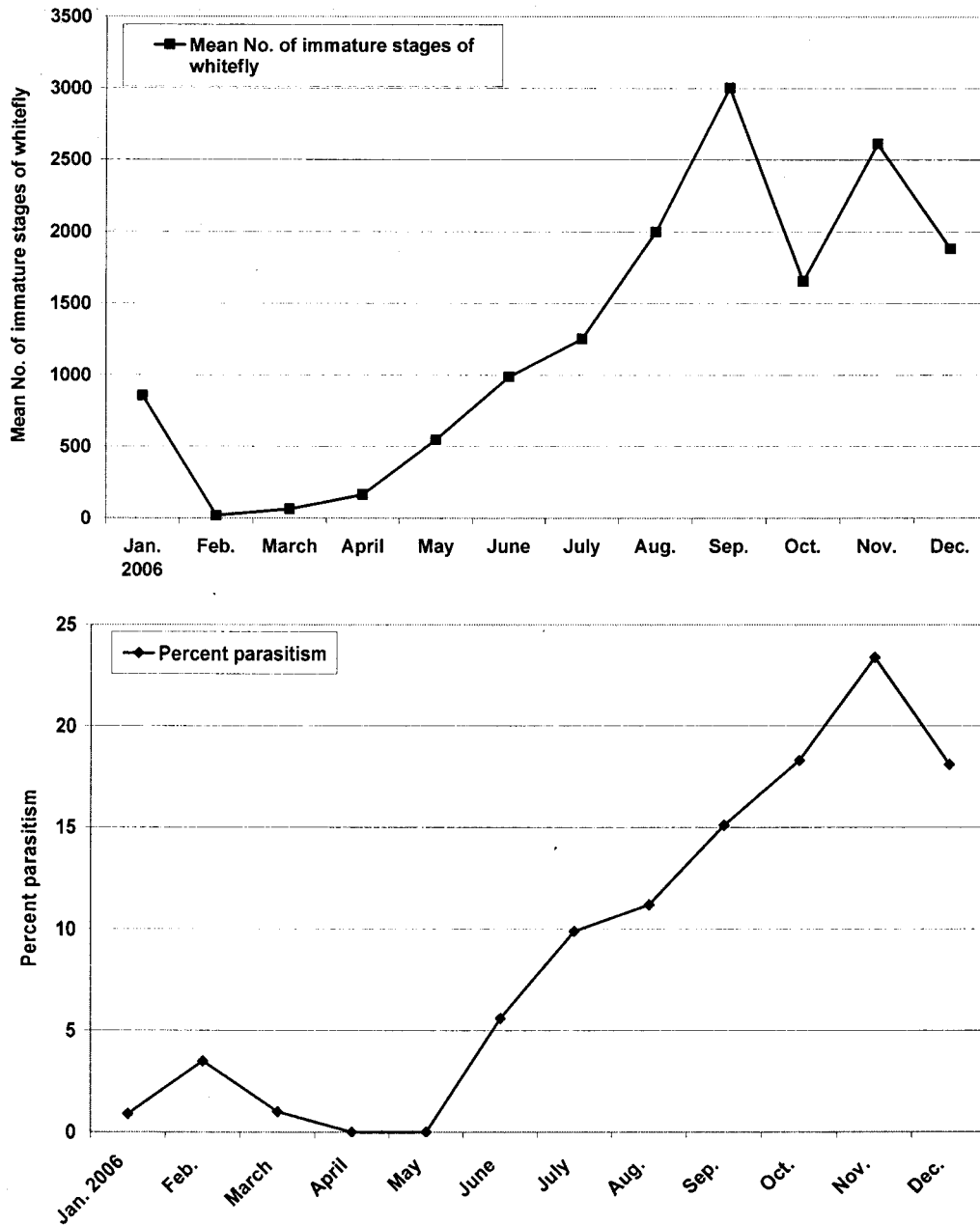


Fig. 4. Percent parasitism of *Bemisia afer* on citrus in Behira governorate by aphelinid parasitoid, *Encarsia lutea* in relation to the weather factors during 2006 year.



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## دراسات حيوية على ذبابة الجميز البيضاء كأفة جديدة على الموالح في مصر

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تصيب ذبابة الجميز البيضاء العديد من المحاصيل الأقتصادية حيث تنتشر في العديد من دول العالم المختلفة . وفي مصر تم في هذا البحث عمل حصر للعوائل النباتية و التوزيع الجغرافي و الأعداء الحيوية لهذه الآفة. الى جانب هذا تم عمل دراسات موسمية على تعداد ذبابة الجميز البيضاء واعدائها الحيوية في محافظة البحيرة على الموالح أثناء موسمي ٢٠٠٥-٢٠٠٦ . وكذلك تشير النتائج المتحصل عليها أن هذه الآفة تصيب ٤٣ عائلا نباتيا منتشرة في ١٩ محافظة في مصر. ولوحظ أن هذه الآفة تهاجم بخمسة طفيليات و مفترسا واحدا. ولها قمتان في التعداد خلال نصف اغسطس و نصف نوفمبر من كل عام على التوالي. أما بالنسبة للأعداء الحيوية فقد وجد أن طفيل *Encarsia lutea* (Masi) هو الطفيل الحيوي الوحيد الذي يتطفل على هذه الآفة في الموالح وقد سجل اعلى نسب تطفل ( ١٥,٩ و ٢٣,٤ ) في شهر نوفمبر خلال عامي الدراسة ( ٢٠٠٥ - ٢٠٠٦ ) وان متوسط نسب التطفل كان ٥,٧ و ٨,٩ على الترتيب .