

**NIMBOA ADELAE MONSERRAT, 1985 PREDATOR
(NEUROPTERA: CONIOPTERYGIDAE) A NEW RECORDED
SPECIES ON THE RED-STRIPED SOFT SCALE, PULVINARIA
TENUIVALVATA (NEWSTEAD), (HEMIPTERA: COCCIDAE) ON
SUGARCANE IN EGYPT**

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Abstract

The dusty wings, *Nimboa adelae* Monserrat, 1985 is a new recorded predacious species on the red-striped soft scale: *Pulvinaria tenuivalvata* (Newstead) on sugarcane in Egypt. Adults were collected associated with infested leaves collected from untreated sugarcane fields at Atfieh, Giza Governorate during 2001/02, 2002/03 and 2006/07 and Aiat also, Giza Governorate in 2008/09. Number of adults fluctuated greatly between the two regions and was about five times greater at Aiat than the other region. Most of the adults (36) emerged during the period from mid- October to late December and the peak (> 83%) was recorded in December 2008 at Aiat.

INTRODUCTION

The red-striped soft scale, *Pulvinaria tenuivalvata* (Newstead) (Hemiptera: Coccidae), has become recently a serious pest of sugarcane. It attacks leaves, causing a reduction in yield due to depletion of sap, production of honeydew and consequently growth of sooty mould, which causes a dramatic reduction of photosynthesis and respiration. Early and heavily infestations have resulted in yield losses. With intensive insecticide applications, the population of the soft scale has fluctuated and biological control agents have been retarded. Since its introduction to Egypt: seven predacious insects (2 Coccinellidae and 1 belongs to Tenebrionidae, Chrysopidae, Anthocoridae, Cosmopterigidae and Ceccidomyiidae), four predacious mites (2 Phytoseidae and 1 of Stigmaeidae and Anysitidae), eleven primary parasitoids (3 Aphelinidae and 8 Encyrtidae) and ten secondary parasitoids (2 Aphelinidae, 5 Encyrtidae, 2 Signiphoridae and 1 Pteromalidae) were recorded (El-Serwy, 2001 and El-Serwy *et al.*, 2007). Specimens associated with infested sugarcane leaves at Aiat and Atfieh regions were identified as *Nimboa adelae* Monserrat, 1985 (Neuroptera: Coniopterygidae) and has been previously known from S. E. Spain (Murcia and Almeria provinces). Biology of *Nimboa adelae* is almost unknown, mostly collected at light, also in dry areas with low (camephytes and herbaceous) and sometime on halophylous vegetation, also at