



# Beneficial insects against pests in stored products

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# Background



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# Project and trial phase 2006 - 2008

## Partners



## Objective:

- Mass-Production of beneficials
- Definition of application strategy in storehouses and manufacturing facilities in Switzerland

# Beneficials & host range

*Anisopteromalus calandrae*  
*Lariophagus distinguendus*



Against Larvae of

- **Sitophilus spp.**
- **Stegobium paniceum**
- **Rhyzopertha dominica**
- **Lasioderma serricorne**
- **Ptinus tectus**
- **Gibbium psylloides**
- **Ptinus fur**
- **Sitotroga cerealella**
- **Callosobruchus spp.**

*Trichogramma evanescens*



Against eggs of

- **Ephestia spp.**
- **Plodia interpunctella**
- **Sitotroga cerealella**
- **Tineola bisselliella**

*Habrobracon hebetor*



Against larvae of

- **Ephestia spp.**
- **Plodia interpunctella**
- **Sitotroga cerealella**

# Biology in brief

*Anisopteromalus calandrae /  
Lariophagus distinguendus*

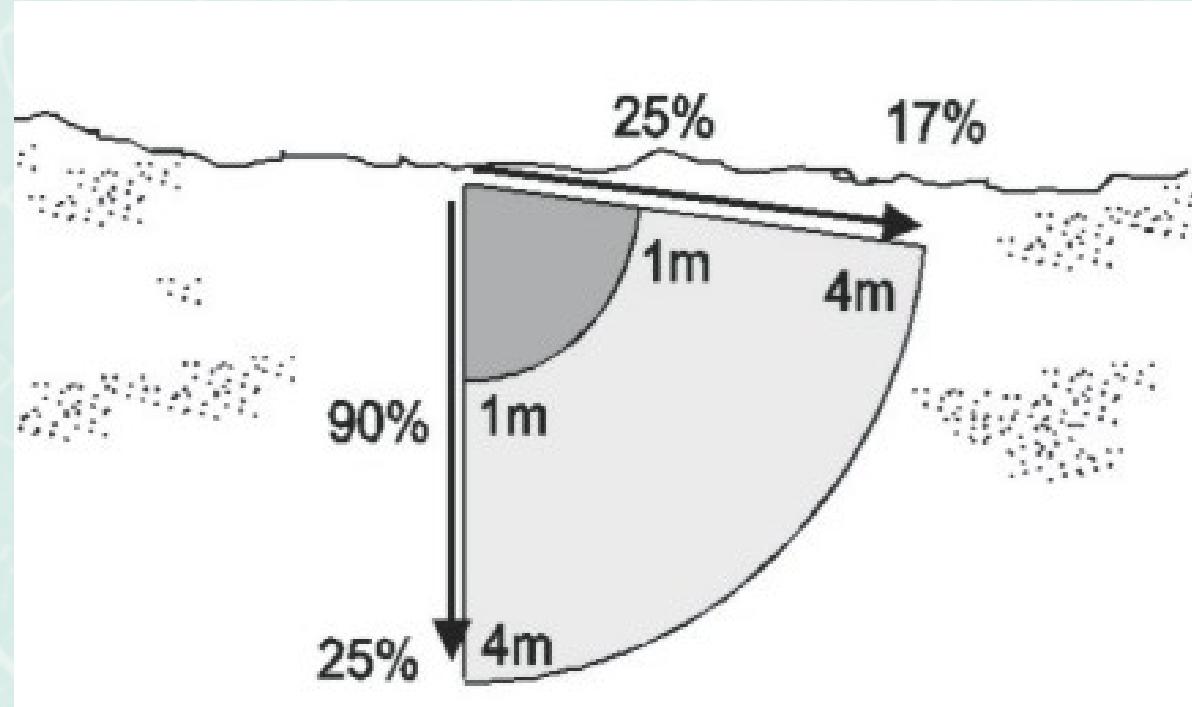
- Ectoparasite
- Strong host recognition through kairomones
- Range: > 25 m horizontally, 4 m deep into wheat grain layer
- Temperature: 17°C - 34°C
- Application rate:  
0.5 – 3 insects / 1 m<sup>2</sup>
- Interval of 3 – 4 weeks



präsentiert

# *Lariophagus distinguendus*

## Host finding ability



% of retrieved *Lariophagus distinguendus* in wheat silo cell

Steidle und Schöller, 2002

# Biology in brief

## *Trichogramma evanescens*



- Endoparasite
- Size: 0.3 mm
- Horizontal range: up to 7 m  
only on smooth surfaces
- Temperatures 15 – 35°C
- Application rate:  
20 – 360 insects / m<sup>2</sup>
- Interval of 2 weeks



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# Biology in brief

## *Habrobracon hebetor*

- Ectoparasite
- Strong host recognition through kairomones
- Range: > 50 m horizontally  
30 cm into grain layer
- Temperature: > 15°C, Optimum  
25 – 30°C, Max. 44°C
- Application rate:  
0.5 – 4 insects / m<sup>2</sup>
- Interval of 2 – 4 weeks



# Trial sites 2006 - 2008

- 2 Silos
- 3 Store houses
- 2 Storage rooms
- 2 Pasta factories
- 2 Mills
- 1 Industrial bakery
- 1 Office



# Example 1

## Industrial bakery

**Rooms** 200m<sup>2</sup> + 800m<sup>2</sup>

**Pest** Indianmeal moth *Plodia interpunctella*

**Beneficial** *Trichogramma evanescens*

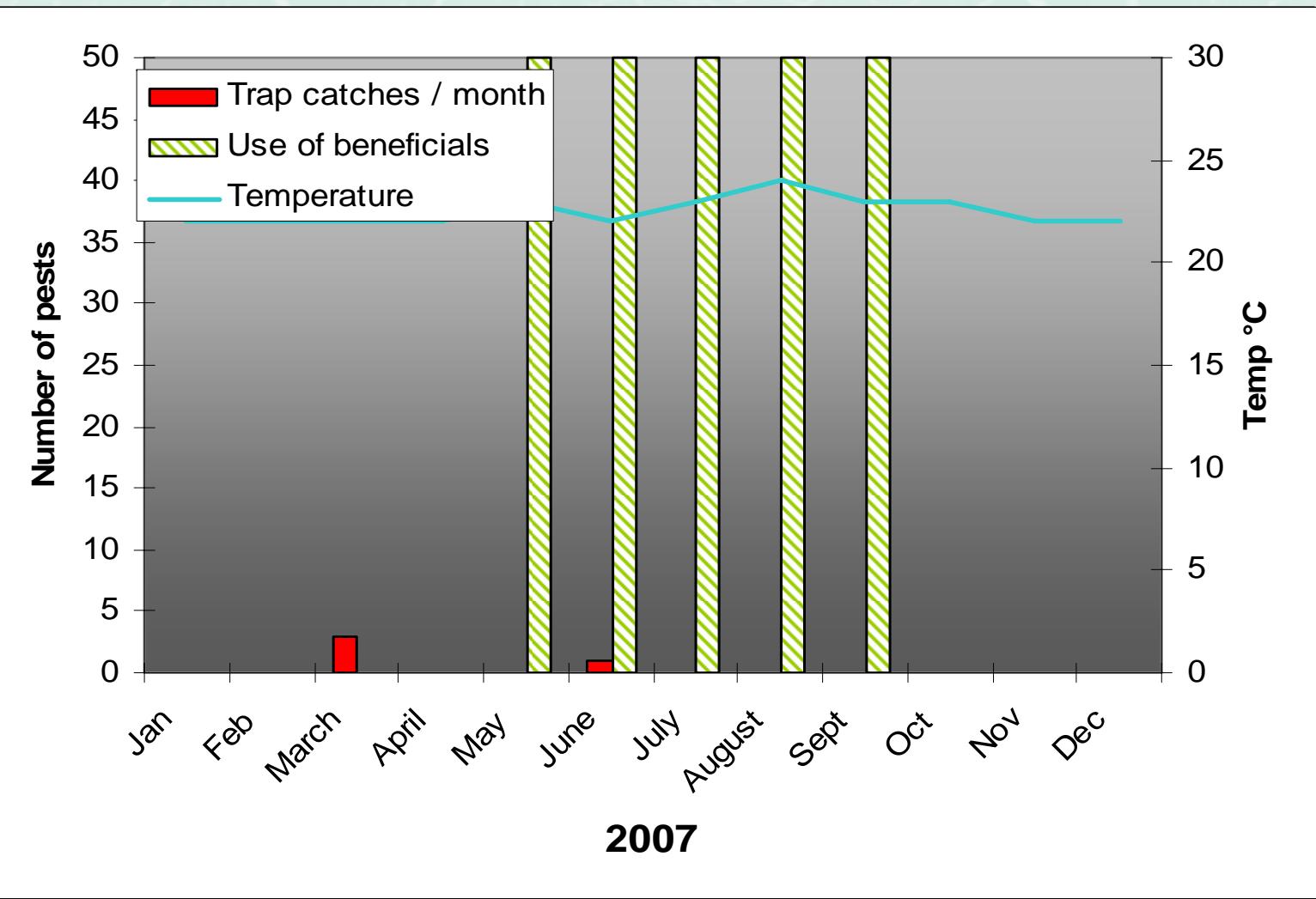
**Application** 10 x 60 cards, 2 weeks interval

**Time** May - October



# Monitoring data 2005 – 2007

## Industrial bakery



## Example 2 Pasta factory

**Rooms**

10.000 m<sup>3</sup> + 11.000 m<sup>3</sup>

**Pests**

Drugstore beetle *Stegobium paniceum*  
Lesser grain borer *Rhyzopelta dominica*

**Beneficial**

*Anisopteromalus calandrae*

**Application**

12 x 40 units, 4 weeks interval

**Time**

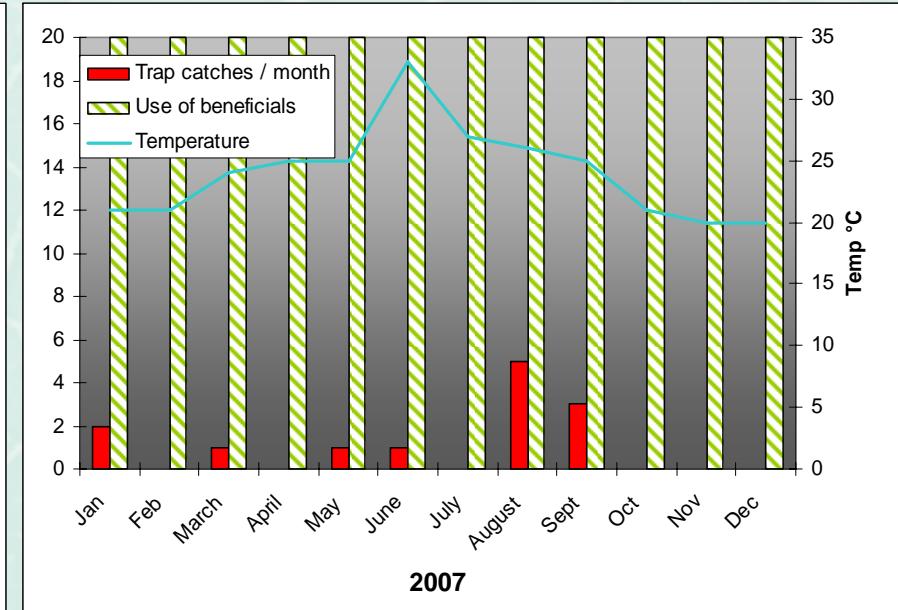
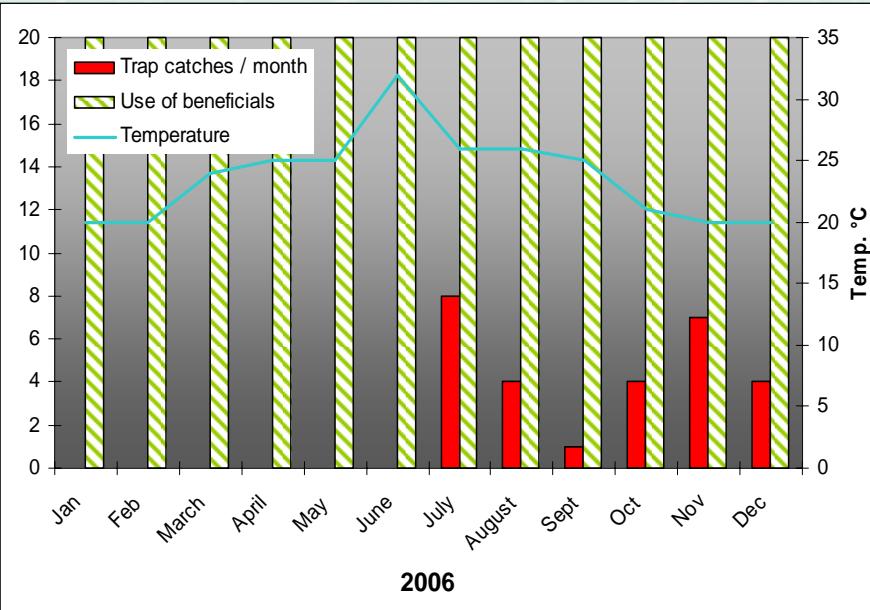
Whole year

# Use of beneficials in pasta factory



# Monitoring data 2006 – 2007

## Pasta factory



# Summary of trial results

- 2006: 4/8 trials needed no chemical treatment
- 2006: 3/8 trials needed only punctual chemical treatment
- 2006: 1/8 trial had to be stopped

## Conclusion

- 2006
  - 2006
- Excellent tool as additional method for  
IPM approach in storage protection**

- 2008: 8/9 needed no chemical treatment

# Advantages of using beneficial insects in storage protection

- ✓ Highly efficient, as proved in field trials over 3 years
- ✓ Cost-effective
- ✓ No chemical residues
- ✓ Safe for the environment and the user
- ✓ Operations need not be stopped when using beneficials
- ✓ Option for extending an anti-resistance strategy
- ✓ Beneficials exclusively parasitize their host organisms and only survive as long as their host is present

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# Thank you for your attention

