

WINETECH TEGNIES

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INHOUD

- 58** Winetech-nuus
- 65** Wingerd-dinge vir Augustus
- 66** Aktueel in die wingerd en die kelder: Die toekoms van natuurlike kurk as bottelsluiting
- 67** Vineyard tips: How can wine grape producers extract maximum value from the services of a technical viticulture consultant?
- 69** Die effek van dekgewasse en grondbestuur op onkruide (Deel 10): Natalse rooipluim
- 72** Confronting Climate Change – understanding and addressing your hotspots
- 74** YAN survey of South African grape musts (Part 1)
- 77** Minder bekende witwynkultivars (Deel 2)
- 80** Nuwe Wyn van Oorsprong-wyk: Agter-Paarl
- 82** Monitoring vine mealybug and its parasitoids



'N TEGNIESE GIDS VIR WYNPRODUSENTE / A TECHNICAL GUIDE FOR WINE PRODUCERS

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SOMMIGE ARTIKELS IS VERKORT. ALLE VERWYSINGS EN INTEKS-VERWYSINGS,

ASOOK BEDANKINGS EN BRONNE WORD VOLLEDIG OP ONS WEBTUISTE AANGEDUI.

MONITORING VINE MEALYBUG AND ITS PARASITOIDS

THE AIM OF THIS STUDY WAS TO ESTABLISH WHETHER THE YELLOW DELTA TRAP USED FOR MONITORING MALE MEALYBUG NUMBERS CAN ALSO EFFECTIVELY BE USED TO MONITOR MEALYBUG PARASITOIDS. BY KWAKU ACHIANO

Farmers use yellow delta traps (Figure 1a) to monitor male vine mealybugs (*Planococcus ficus*) and yellow sticky traps (Figure 1b) to monitor mealybug parasitoids numbers on their farms.

For the field study four vineyards (± 3 ha each) with a history of parasitoid presence were selected as trial sites: Nietvoorbij (Stellenbosch), Groot Constantia (Cape Town), Backsberg (Paarl), and Morgenster (Somerset West). Yellow delta traps and yellow sticky traps were placed 30 m apart in the same row in the centre of each hectare. The yellow delta traps contained a removable white sticky pad with female mealybug pheromone lure. The traps were inspected fortnightly for the presence of parasitoids from September 2005 to August 2008.

The parasitoids *Coccidoxenoides perminutus* and *Leptomastix dactylopii* appear to be equally attracted to yellow delta traps and yellow sticky traps as there was no



A



B

FIGURE 1. Traps used to monitor insect pests: (a) Yellow delta trap with female *P. ficus* lure and (b) yellow sticky trap.

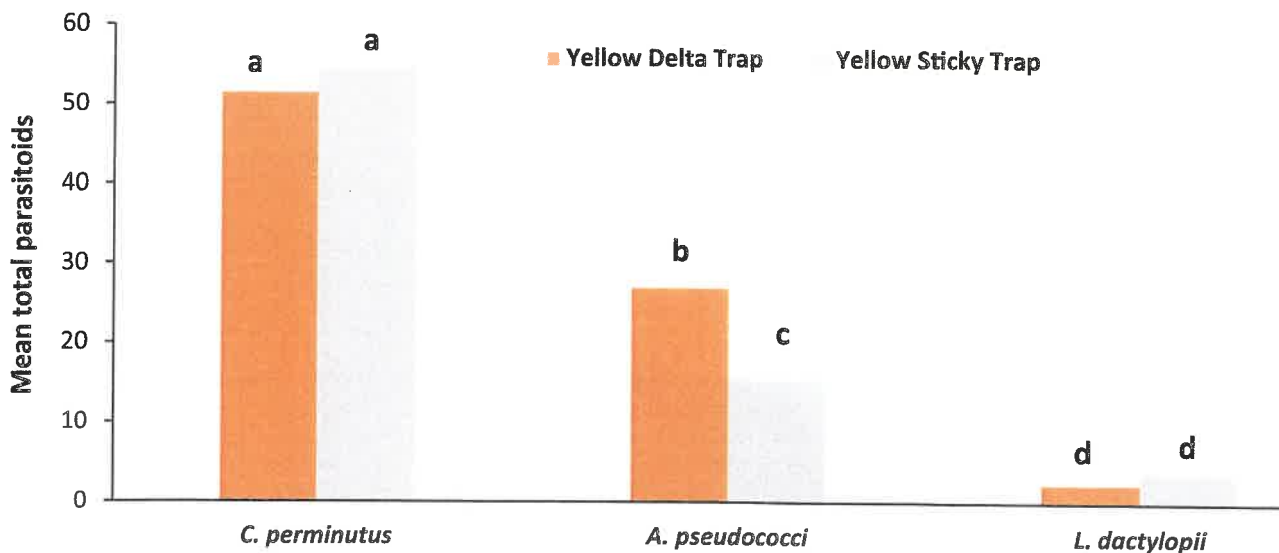


FIGURE 2. Mean total number of parasitoids captured (all four farms combined), with different traps from September 2005 to August 2008. Means with the same letters are not significantly different at $P = 0.05$.

significant difference between them in numbers captured (Figure 2). The parasitoid *Anagrus pseudococci*, however, had a predilection for the yellow delta traps as trap catch numbers were significantly higher than on sticky traps (Figure 2). The predominant parasitoid species trapped was *C. perminutus*, which many growers use in augmentative releases against vine mealybug.

CONCLUSION

The yellow delta trap baited with female mealybug lure used to monitor the pest status of vine mealybug can also be used to

monitor the presence of parasitoids in vineyards. This avoids two sets of traps to work with, becomes more economical and reduces logistical problems, as only one set of traps will have to be sent to experts for counting and identification.

ABSTRACT

Field studies over three seasons showed that the yellow delta trap, currently used to monitor male mealybugs, could also be used to determine presence of both vine mealybug and parasitoids.

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Agri Soil	47	Monsanto	51	Sawex.....	53
Argo/Landini	IBC	Nampak Glass	IFC, 1	Stihl	43
Bosman Adama.....	5	Nedbank.....	28	Summit Agencies	50
Cape Agricultural Products	61	NSF.....	11	Vinex.....	49
ConeTech	33	Old Mutual	OFC	Voor-Groenberg	9
Dow AgroSciences	44	Paarl Labels.....	3	Wellington Wines	35
FarmTrack.....	56	Rose Foundation	OBC	World Bulk Wine	5
Fermentis.....	37	RovicLeers.....	46		
Marsh	52	Santam	54		