

KHẢO SÁT KHẢ NĂNG ĂN MỒI CỦA BỘ RỪA SÁU VỆT ĐEN
***Menochilus sexmaculatus* Fabricius (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae)**
KIỂM SOÁT RỆP MỀM *Aphis craccivora* Koch (Hemiptera: Aphididae),
BỘ TRỄ *Thrips palmi* Karny (Thysanoptera: Thripidae)
TRONG PHÒNG THÍ NGHIỆM

Study on Preying Ability of Ladybug *Menochilus sexmaculatus*
Fabricius (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae), its Ability to Control *Aphis craccivora* Koch
(Hemiptera: Aphididae) & *Thrips palmi* Karny
(Thysanoptera: Thripidae) in Laboratory

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Abstract

The study was conducted to evaluate the prey ability of ladybug *Menochilus sexmaculatus* in laboratory conditions, which provides the basis for management of this species in particular and predators in general in greenhouses.

Experimental results in the absence of food choice show that for two types of food, *Aphis craccivora* and *Thrips palmi*, the ladybug within the first 24 hours after molting has higher prey ability than the ladybug within 48 hours after molting at every instar. The ladybug from the second instar has higher vitality than the first instar beetle. The number of aphids eaten by the second instar ladybug is higher than the number of mealybugs eaten by the first instar ladybug and rises in later instars. The second instar larvae should be released in greenhouses to control aphid and thrip. If food choices are available, 2 types of food exist at the same time (*Aphis craccivora* and *Thrips palmi*), aphids is preferred. However, ladybug still consumes a certain amount of thrips. The difference in number of thrips consumed in NT2 ($17.2 \pm 1.55a$), NT3 ($16.8 \pm 2.55a$) and NT4 ($15.6 \pm 1.90a$) is not statistically significant. This suggests that thrip can be a necessary source of nutrients for ladybugs. The experiment shows that *Menochilus sexmaculatus* can be used to control both aphids and thrips. Analysis of the experiment also reveals that it looks for food around an area of 0.02 m^2 for 14.112 minutes. At 12 o'clock a second instar larva can look for food around an area of 1 m^2 .

Keywords: prey ability of ladybug, *Menochilus sexmaculatus*, *Aphis craccivora* and *Thrips palmi*