



Parasitism Rates of *Tiphia vernalis* in Connecticut

During the 1920's and early 1930's USDA entomologists imported *Tiphia vernalis* Rohwer (Hymenoptera Tiphidae) from Korea for the biological control of the Japanese beetle. Numerous wasp releases were made throughout the Northeast. Releases of *T. vernalis* were made between 1936 and 1949 in six of Connecticut's eight counties. This wasp, also known as the spring *Tiphia*, attacks the last instar of the Japanese beetle. The spring *Tiphia* has also been reported to attack Oriental beetle grubs. In June of 2007 and 2008, surveys were done at various locations in Connecticut to determine the parasitism rate of this beneficial wasp on the Japanese and Oriental beetle grubs. The data collected on *Tiphia vernalis* are the first collected in Connecticut since 1950. Table 1 presents results from the 2008 survey.

Table 1. Percent parasitism of *Tiphia vernalis* on Oriental and Japanese beetle larvae.

Town	Oriental Beetle Larvae/sq.ft.	Percent Parasitism	Japanese Beetle Larvae/sq.ft.	Percent Parasitism
Vernon	0		0.2	100
Manchester (1)	0.3	33	0.3	0
Manchester (2)	0		0.3	0
Farmington	0.4	0	0	
Meriden	1.9	0	0.5	67
Mansfield	0.3	33	0	
Thompson (1)	0		0	
Thompson (2)	0.3	33	0	
Pomfret	1.7	23	0.1	100
Coventry	3.1	7	0	
Tolland	0.2	0	0	
Average	0.7	16%	0.1	53%
UConn, Storrs			0.8	61%