

1 Coccinellid host morphology dictates morphological diversity of the parasitoid wasp

2 *Dinocampus coccinellae*

3 Hannah Vansant^{1,3,5}, Yumary M Vasquez^{1,3, 4}, John J Obrycki², Arun Sethuraman¹

4

5 1 Department of Biological Sciences, California State University San Marcos, San Marcos CA

6 92096

7 2 Department of Entomology, University of Kentucky, Lexington KY 40546

8 3 These authors contributed equally to this work

9 4 Current address: Graduate Program in Quantitative and Systems Biology, University of

10 California Merced, Merced CA 95343

11 5 Current address: NIH MHIRT Program, University of Oxford, Oxford, OX1 3PT

12

13 Running Title: Size variation in a parasitoid wasp

14 Keywords: Morphometrics, Parasitoid Wasps, Coccinellid beetles, Host-specificity

15 Type of manuscript: Article

16 Number of words: 5349

17 Elements to appear in expanded online version: All tables, figures in main text.

18 Corresponding author: Arun Sethuraman

19 Address: Department of Biological Sciences

20 Sci II 125 333 Twin Oaks Valley Road San Marcos CA 92096

21 Phone: +1-760-750-8271

22 Email: asethuraman@csusm.edu

23

24 **Abstract**

25 Parasitoid-host interactions involving host species that are newly introduced into the range of a
26 generalist parasitoid provide systems that can be examined for phenotypic plasticity and
27 evolutionary changes in parasitoid-host dynamics. The solitary Braconid parasitoid wasp,
28 *Dinocampus coccinellae*, has a cosmopolitan distribution and parasitizes approximately 50
29 species of predatory lady beetles (ladybirds) in the family Coccinellidae. In this study we
30 quantified the effect of six (4 native North American and 2 non-native North American) host
31 species on the morphometrics of *D. coccinellae*. Adult lady beetles were collected from 13
32 locations in the United States and reared in the laboratory until *D.coccinellae* exited from their
33 adult beetle hosts. Eighty-nine individual *D. coccinellae* females and their associated host were
34 weighed and morphometric measurements were taken. The smallest lady beetle host *Hippodamia*
35 *parenthesis* produced the smallest adult wasps; the largest host species, *Coccinella*
36 *septempunctata*, produced the largest female wasps. A directional cline in morphology of wasps
37 and their coccinellid hosts was also observed in a dry-weight regression ($R^2 = 0.4066$, p-value <
38 0.0001). Two underlying mechanisms may explain the results of our study: (1) morphometric
39 variation in *D. coccinellae* is governed by phenotypic plasticity with the size of the emerging
40 offspring contingent on the size of the coccinellid host, and/or (2) that morphometric variation in
41 *D. coccinellae* is governed by genomic adaptation to coccinellid host populations.

42

43 Keywords: Morphology, parasitoid-host interaction, phenotypic plasticity

44

45

46

47 **Introduction**

48 Parasitic Hymenoptera make up at least 280,000 species of all parasitic insects
49 (Pennacchio and Strand 2006). Numerous studies have examined the relationship between hosts
50 and their parasitoids. (Hochberg and Ives 2000, Godfray 1994). Importantly, several studies have
51 shown that the morphological characteristics of adults and fecundity of female parasitoids are
52 affected by host characteristics, for example, host species (Nicol et al., 1999), host life stage
53 (Traynor et al., 2005), host instars (Cloutier et al., 2000), and host size (Harvey et al., 2006;
54 Mackauer et al., 2001). The size and species of hosts have been shown to greatly influence the
55 evolutionary history of morphological characteristics in parasitoids (Brandl et al., 1987; Belshaw
56 et al., 2003; Charnov et al., 1984; Bakker K et al., 1985; Moore et al., 2002; Symonds et al.,
57 2013). It has been hypothesized that host-parasitoid co-evolution could eventually lead to
58 increased fitness of parasitoids allowing them to parasitize multiple species (Charnov et al.,
59 1984; Ellers et al., 2002; Sampaio et al., 2008). This also points to evidence of host-specificity in
60 a majority of parasitoids, in that parasitoids adaptively evolve in response to host characteristics,
61 and eventually may specialize in parasitizing only particular host species. Few studies examine
62 generalist parasitoids that parasitize multiple host species, and correspondingly exhibit
63 quantitative variability in morphology, potentially in response to host characteristics. For
64 example, parasitoid size as a plastic trait has been studied using *Aphidus ervi*
65 (*Hymenoptera:Aphidiidae*), an aphid parasitoid, that attacks multiple host species (Henry et al.,
66 2006). There is little understanding, however, of the biological processes that lead to generalist
67 behavior of parasitoids.

68

69 *Dinocampus coccinellae* (Hymenoptera: Braconidae) is a thelytokous parthenogenic
70 species, in which females are produced from unfertilized eggs (Ceryniger et al 2012). Males have
71 been rarely observed; one laboratory study observed mating to occur, but all offspring were
72 females (Wright 1980). This process results in offspring being maternal clones. *D. coccinellae*
73 are generalist wasps, capable of parasitizing over 50 species of coccinellids across various
74 climates worldwide (Balduf 1926, Ceryniger et al 2012). Within the beetle host, *D. coccinellae*
75 larvae feed on teratocytes derived from the parasitoid egg, thus the adult beetle host typically
76 survives the larval development of *D. coccinellae* (Ceryniger et al 2012). However, most
77 parasitized adult beetles die following the exit of the parasitoid larva, when they become
78 entangled in the pupal cocoon produced by the parasitoid (Ceryniger et al 2012, Dheilly et al
79 2015). Several predatory lady beetle hosts of *D. coccinellae* are natural enemies that are
80 beneficial species for biological control (including the native North American species
81 *Hippodamia convergens*, and two non-native species in North America, *Coccinella*
82 *septempunctata*, and *Harmonia axyridis*). Coupled with low survival rates of parasitized beetles,
83 and the generalist nature of *D. coccinellae*, these wasps are of biological, ecological, and
84 economic interest. Specifically, we are interested in examining the ecological basis of host-
85 specific plastic or adaptive morphological traits, that make *D. coccinellae* amenable to
86 parasitizing coccinellid beetles. In this study we analyze the geometric morphometrics of field-
87 collected, lab-reared *D. coccinellae* and their coccinellid beetle hosts (from six host species),
88 sampled across the United States. Our goals in this study were twofold: (1) to quantify the
89 variability in morphometrics of *D. coccinellae* across its primary range in the United States, (2)
90 to correlate the variability in morphometrics of *D. coccinellae* with morphometrics of their hosts.

91 Broadly, we hypothesize that morphometric diversity of the host species will dictate the
92 morphometrics of the parasitoid wasps parasitizing them.

93

94 **Methods**

95 Ninety-nine parasitoid wasps within their adult hosts (*Harmonia axyridis* (*Har. axyridis*),
96 *Coleomegilla maculata* (*Col. maculata*), *Coccinella septempunctata* (*Cocc. septempunctata*),
97 *Hippodamia convergens* (*H. convergens*), *Cycloneda munda* (*Cyc. munda*), and *Hippodamia*
98 *parenthesis* (*H. parenthesis*)) were field-collected in the states of Kentucky, Ohio, Illinois, New
99 York, Missouri and Kansas (see Fig. 1) The *Hippodamia convergens* samples from Arizona were
100 field-collected and shipped to the authors. Adult lady beetles were collected from agricultural
101 fields, prairie, and roadside vegetation using sweep nets. Predatory Coccinellidae are commonly
102 found in these habitats when their aphid prey is present. Following field collection, adult beetles
103 were reared in the laboratory (L:D 16:8, 22°C, on pea aphids) until the last larval stage of the
104 wasps' development at which point the parasitoid larva exits the host and pupates within a
105 cocoon, typically woven between the coccinellid beetle hosts' legs. After eclosion of the adult
106 parasitoid, both the beetle host and parasitoid were then stored in 95% ethanol at -20C. Of these
107 samples, 89 were viable for the morphological analyses which needed intact, undamaged
108 samples of both the parasitoid and host. It is of interest to note that of the six host species of
109 coccinellids, *Harmonia axyridis* and *Coccinella septempunctata* are not native to continental
110 United States (derived from Asia, and Europe respectively, (Obrycki and Kring 1988), thus the
111 interaction between these host species and North American *D. coccinellae* may be a recently
112 evolving interaction. Alternately, *D. coccinellae* could also be native to Europe or Asia
113 (Ceryniger et al 2012), and have shifted hosts since their introduction to North America. Dry

114 weights of wasps and host were recorded individually on a Mettler Toledo XS105 DualRange
115 Analytical Balance after 1 minute of air-drying on a Kimtech Kimwipe to allow for evaporation
116 of alcohol. After weighing, each wasp and its respective host were photographed individually in
117 two replicate rounds using an optical microscope with a SPOT Idea camera attachment. Wasps
118 were photographed from a lateral view (see Fig. 3), and their hosts were photographed from
119 lateral, dorsal, and ventral views to include key morphological characteristics and maintain
120 consistency in imaging (see Fig. 2). Images were uploaded into Image-J (version 1.51j8) for
121 morphometric measurement (in mm) of host and wasp morphological characteristics with a scale
122 bar (included in the parasitoid/host mounting stage) to ensure consistent scaling. Wing length of
123 the wasp was not included in further statistical analyses due to many wings being folded, or
124 crushed during storage. Body depth of hosts (measured as the “height” of a beetle from the
125 lateral view) was also excluded due to measurement inconsistency on the styrofoam mounting
126 stage.. All high-resolution images from this study will be deposited with
127 <http://www.morphbank.net/> upon acceptance.

128 All statistical analyses of morphometric measurements were carried out for each round
129 separately (except for dry weight which was recorded in one round) using Rstudio (version
130 1.0.143) and the package: ggplot2. Variation in means of recorded morphometrics of wasps and
131 their hosts were visualized using boxplots, and summaries (means, medians, standard deviations)
132 were computed. Due to lack of normality across most morphometric measures, a Wilcoxon
133 signed rank test was performed across wasp morphometric measures (grouped by their respective
134 host species) to test the null hypothesis of non-significant deviation from the mean. Similar
135 Wilcoxon signed rank tests were also performed on coccinellid host morphometrics. We then
136 performed a Kruskal-Wallis non-parametric one way ANOVA, followed by a posthoc Dunn's

137 Test on each morphometric measure in the parasitoid versus its host species, to test for
138 significant morphometric differences by host. Parasitoid dry-weight was also regressed onto host
139 dry-weight, as a proxy of size variation between the two. Additionally, a Principal Components
140 Analysis (PCA) was used to orthogonally transform morphometrics (including dry-weights) of
141 parasitoids and their hosts, and project their variability onto principal components of maximum
142 variance.

143

144 **Results**

145 Summaries of morphometric measurements in coccinellid hosts (Table 1), and parasitoid wasps
146 (Table 2) are shown in Figures 4 and 5. The smallest hosts (Fig. 4 as judged by all
147 measurements), *H. parenthesis* produced the smallest adult wasps (Fig. 5). Similarly, the largest
148 hosts, *Coccinella septempunctata*, produced the largest wasps. This directional cline (Fig. 6) in
149 morphology of wasps and their coccinellid hosts is also reflected in a dry-weight regression (R^2
150 = 0.4066, p-value < 0.0001). A non-parametric Kruskal-Wallis one-way analysis of variance
151 (ANOVA) test of host morphometric variation and parasitoid wasp morphometric variation was
152 significant at a p-value threshold of 0.05 on each morphometric measurement, rejecting the null
153 hypothesis that there is no variation in means of measured morphometric variables in parasitoid
154 wasps, among their corresponding host species. Additionally, coccinellid host measurements
155 were significantly variable (p < 0.001) among all host species measured, indicating significant
156 variability in sizes of coccinellid hosts. Conservative posthoc Dunn's tests indicated that the
157 variability observed between pronotum width in coccinellid adult hosts had the greatest level of
158 significance. A similar post-hoc Dunn's test in parasitoid wasp measurements indicated that
159 thorax length varied more than other morphometric measurements. A Principal Components

160 Analysis (PCA) showed that the first two PC's account for 70 -75% of variability in both rounds
161 (Fig. 7). Interestingly, morphometric variables in the two introduced beetle species, *Cocc.*
162 *septempunctata* and *Har. axyridis* share no overlapping points with the native species, *Col.*
163 *maculata*, *Cyc. munda*, and *H. parenthesis*, but show close association with the native species *H.*
164 *convergens*.

165

166 **Discussion**

167 The parthenogenic parasitoid *Dinocampus coccinellae* (Schrank) (Hymenoptera:
168 Braconidae), a cosmopolitan species, attacks over 50 species in the subfamily Coccinellinae
169 (Ceryngier et al., 2012). This parasitoid typically attacks adults, but laboratory studies and field
170 collections of pre-imaginal stages have documented that it will attack larval and pupal stages of
171 ladybird beetle hosts (Ware et al 2010; Obrycki et al 1985). A recent study has shown that the
172 replication of an endosymbiotic RNA virus in the parasitoid *D. coccinellae* is correlated with the
173 changes in host behavior following parasitization (Dheilly et al 2015). Results indicate that the
174 manipulation of host behaviors by this parasitoid may be regulated by this endosymbiotic virus.

175 In our current study of the parasitoid-host interactions between *D. coccinellae* and several
176 native North American and introduced species of Coccinellidae, we have quantified the influence
177 of host size on the size of parasitoid females. Our study clearly shows that larger coccinellid
178 hosts that are parasitized by *D. coccinellae* produce larger female parasitoids, an observation that
179 has also been reported by Obrycki (1988, 1989), Belnavis (1988 - except this study indicated that
180 larger host beetles did not always produce larger wasps). It is interesting to note that two of the
181 larger host species examined in this study, *Cocc. septempunctata* and *Har. axyridis* are
182 introduced species, which have established and spread throughout North America during the past

183 four decades (Sethuraman et al 2017). It is not yet known if populations of *D. coccinellae* was
184 introduced with *Cocc. septempunctata* or *Har. axyridis* creating a situation that may indicate that
185 the newly introduced parasitoid populations have adaptively shifted hosts in North America since
186 introduction in the early 20th century. This possibility will be explored in a follow up study by
187 delineating the evolutionary history and genomics of *D. coccinellae*. Nonetheless, our findings
188 could have two potential causes - (1) morphometric variation in *D. coccinellae* is governed by
189 phenotypic plasticity with the size of the emerging offspring contingent on the size of the
190 coccinellid host (Boivin 2010, Benard 2004), and/or (2) morphometric variation in *D.*
191 *coccinellae* is governed by genomic adaptation to its coccinellid host population (Henry et al.,
192 2006).

193 Importantly, morphometric size variation in parasitoid wasps play a causal role in
194 parasitization efficacy across their hosts. Previous studies of *D. coccinellae* parasitization
195 efficacy in the non-native *Har. axyridis* adults have indicated the potential for behavioral
196 adaptations in adult hosts, resulting in greater time to parasitize, when compared to the native
197 North American species, *Col. maculata* (Firlej et al., 2009). It has also been noted that
198 parasitization efficacy by *D. coccinellae* is significantly lower in *Har. axyridis*, when compared
199 to conspecific native species (*Cocc. septempunctata*) in England (Comont et al., 2014), and the
200 native species *Col. maculata* in North America (Hoogendoorn et al., 2002). However, a
201 contradictory study of the two species that compared the parasitization rates of *D. coccinellae* of
202 native versus introduced populations of *Cocc. septempunctata* and *Har. axyridis* in Japan and
203 England indicated no differences based on their geographical origin, but complement the study
204 of Firlej et al. 2009 in showing that *Har. axyridis* are parasitized at a significantly lower rate than
205 *Cocc. septempunctata*. *Har. axyridis* is also known to be a voracious and invasive species across

206 its geographical range in the world, potentially owing to behavioral and morphological
207 adaptations to parasitization, and “enemy release” (Ceryngier et al., 2012). However, a more
208 recent study by Dindo et al., 2016 compared the interactions of *D. coccinellae* with *Har.*
209 *axyridis*, and *Adalia bipunctata* in the field, showing that *D. coccinellae* had more of a negative
210 effect on the fitness of the *Har. axyridis* population, than on that of *A. bipunctata*. These
211 contradicting observations in different populations of the same species indicate that behavioral,
212 morphological, or biochemical adaptations to parasitization potentially have a genomic basis, as
213 previously observed in *D. melanogaster* (Orr and Irving 1997). Studying the population genomic
214 variation across coccinellid species (currently underway in the authors’ laboratories) will thus
215 allow us to explore functional genomic variation in *Har. axyridis* and *Cocc. septempunctata*
216 leading to defense against parasitization by *D. coccinellae*. Complementarily, we are also
217 studying the genomics of *D. coccinellae* to study changes in the parasitoid wasp and/or
218 intraspecific variation among populations , that allow for higher rates of successful parasitization
219 of *Har. axyridis* in North America, or alternately, adaptively evolving to parasitize a several new
220 host species in North America.

221 Body size of coccinellid hosts have also been studied to directly affect the rate of
222 parasitization by parasitic wasps during different life history stages (*Cocc. septempunctata*, see
223 Song et al., 2017). Since our study only controlled for the life history stage of the emerging
224 wasp, and not for the life history stage of the coccinellid host, further studies are required to
225 understand the efficacy of parasitization of large versus small parasitoid wasps on larval versus
226 adult coccinellid hosts. Additionally, the sex of the coccinellid host, and prey availability in the
227 field could also influence variability in size of adults (Belnavis 1988), which were not controlled
228 in our study.

229 Our study however brings into question the fecundity of larger adult female *D. coccinellae*
230 (presumably greater than that of smaller adult female *D. coccinellae* possibly due to more eggs
231 and or larger eggs in larger female parasitoids and possibly longer life span of larger females,
232 and thus greater rates of parasitization of larger hosts - see Obrycki 1989). Thus if there is indeed
233 positive fecundity selection for larger females in a population, we would expect an ongoing trend
234 of observing larger *D. coccinellae* in the field, which thus parasitize a larger number of native,
235 and non-native species. Of potential interest then is the differential efficacy of parasitization of
236 small *D. coccinellae* on larger coccinellid hosts, and vice versa. Within our 99 sampled wasps in
237 the current study, one *D. coccinellae* female reared from a field collected *Cyc. munda*
238 successfully parasitized and produced female F1 progeny from *Cocc. septempunctata*, *Har.*
239 *axyridis* and *Col. maculata*, with the former two species being the largest of Coccinellid host
240 species studied in this study work.

241

242 **Acknowledgments**

243 We thank Drs. Diego Sustaita, Casey Mueller, and John Eme, Department of Biological Sciences
244 for help with morphometric measurements. This work was funded by a CSUSM GPSM grant to
245 the corresponding author, and by the Summer Scholars Program, CSUSM for supporting the co-
246 first authors, and USDA-REEU 2017-06423 Grant.

247

248 **References**

- 249 1. Bakker K, van Alphen JJM, van Batenburg FHD, van der Hoeven N, Nell HW et al.
250 (1985) The function of host discrimination and superparasitization in parasitoids. *Oecologia* 67:
251 572-576. doi:10.1007/ BF00790029.

- 252 2. Balduf W. V. 1926. The bionomics of *Dinocampus coccinellae* Schrank. *Ann. Entomol.*
253 *Soc. Am.* 19: 465–498.
- 254 3. Belshaw R, Grafen A, Quicke DLJ (2003) Inferring life history from ovipositor
255 morphology in parasitoid wasps using phylogenetic regression and discriminant analysis. *Zool J*
256 *Linn Soc* 139: 213-228. doi:10.1046/j.1096-3642.2003.00078.x.
- 257 4. Benard, M. F. (2004). Predator-induced phenotypic plasticity in organisms with complex
258 life histories. *Annu. Rev. Ecol. Evol. Syst.*, 35, 651-673.
- 259 5. Boivin, G. (2010). Phenotypic plasticity and fitness in egg parasitoids. *Neotropical*
260 *Entomology*, 39(4).
- 261 6. Brandl R, Vidal S (1987) Ovipositor length in parasitoids and tentiform leaf mines:
262 adaptations in eulophids (Hymenoptera: Chalcidoidea). *Biol J Linn Soc* 32: 351-355.
263 doi:10.1111/j.1095-8312.1987.tb00436.x.
- 264 7. Ceryngier, P., Nedvěd, O., Grez, A. A., Riddick, E. W., Roy, H. E., San Martin, G., ... &
265 Haelewaters, D. (2017). Predators and parasitoids of the harlequin ladybird, *Harmonia axyridis*,
266 in its native range and invaded areas. *Biological Invasions*, 1-23.
- 267 8. Charnov EL, Skinner SW (1984) Evolution of host selection and clutch size in parasitoid
268 wasps. *Florida Entomol* 67: 5-21. doi: 10.2307/3494101.
- 269 9. Cloutier C, Duperron J, Tertuliano M, McNeil JN (2000) Host instar, body size and
270 fitness in the koinobiotic parasitoid *Aphidius nigripes*. *Entomol Exp Applicata* 97: 29-40.
271 doi:10.1046/j. 1570-7458.2000.00713.x.
- 272 10. Cohen JE, Jonsson T, Müller CB, Godfray HC, Savage VM. Body sizes of hosts and
273 parasitoids in individual feeding relationships. *Proceedings of the National Academy of*
274 *Sciences*. 2005 Jan 18;102(3):684-9.

- 275 11. Dheilly, N.M. et al 2015. Who is the puppet master? Replication of a parasitic wasp-
276 associated virus correlates with host behavior manipulation. Proc R. Soc. B. 282:20142772.
277 <http://dx.doi.org/10.1098/rspb.2014.2772>
- 278 12. Dindo, M. L., Francati, S., Lanzoni, A., di Vitantonio, C., Marchetti, E., Burgio, G., &
279 Maini, S. (2016). Interactions between the multicolored Asian lady beetle *Harmonia axyridis* and
280 the parasitoid *Dinocampus coccinellae*. *Insects*, 7(4), 67.
- 281 13. Ellers J, Van Alphen JJM, Sevenster JG (2002) A field study of sizefitness relationships
282 in the parasitoid *Asobara tabida*. *J Anim Ecol* 67: 318-324.
- 283 14. Geoghegan, L.E., T.M. O. Majerus, & M.E.N. Majerus. 1998. Differential parasitization
284 of adult and pre-imaginal *Coccinella septempunctata* (Coleoptera: Coccinellidae) by
285 *Dinocampus coccinellae* (Hymenoptera: Braconidae). *European J Entomology* 95: 571-579.
- 286 15. Godfray, H.C.J. 1994. *Parasitoids : Behavioral and Evolutionary Ecology*. Princeton
287 Univ. Press. 473 pp
- 288 16. Harvey JA, Vet LEM, Witjes LMA, Bezemer TM (2006) Remarkable similarity in body
289 mass of a secondary hyperparasitoid *Lysibia nana* and its primary parasitoid *Cotesia glomerata*
290 emerging from cocoons of comparable size. *Arch Insect Biochem Physiol* 61: 170-183. doi:
291 10.1002/arch.20080. PubMed: 16482580.
- 292 17. Hochberg, M.E. and A.R. Ives. (eds) 2000. *Parasitoid Population Biology*. Princeton
293 Univ. Press. 366 pp
- 294 18. Hoogendoorn, M., & Heimpel, G. E. (2002). Indirect interactions between an introduced
295 and a native ladybird beetle species mediated by a shared parasitoid. *Biological Control*, 25(3),
296 224-230.

- 297 19. Lee M Henry, Bernard D Roitberg, David R Gillespie Proc. R. Soc. B 2006. Covariance
298 of phenotypically plastic traits induces an adaptive shift in host selection behaviour 273 2893-
299 2899; DOI: 10.1098/rspb.2006.3672. Published 22 November 2006
- 300 20. Mackauer, M., and A. Chau. “Adaptive Self Superparasitism in a Solitary Parasitoid
301 Wasp: The Influence of Clutch Size on Offspring Size.” *Functional Ecology*, vol. 15, no. 3,
302 2001, pp. 335–343. JSTOR, JSTOR, www.jstor.org/stable/2656353.
- 303 21. Moore J (2002) *Parasites and the behavior of animals*. New York: Oxford University
304 Press.
- 305 22. Nicol CMY, Mackauer M (1999) The scaling of host body size and mass in a host-
306 parasitoid association: influence of host species and stage. *Entomol Exp Applicata* 90: 83-92.
307 doi:10.1046/j. 1570-7458.1999.00425.x.
- 308 23. Obrycki, J.J. 1989. Parasitization of native and exotic coccinellids by *Dinocampus*
309 *coccinellae* (Hymenoptera: Braconidae). *J. Kansas Entomol. Soc.* 62: 211-218.
- 310 24. Obrycki, J.J., M.J. Tauber, and C.A. Tauber. 1985. *Perilitus coccinellae* (Hymenoptera:
311 Braconidae): Parasitization and development in relation to host-stage attacked. *Ann. Entomol.*
312 *Soc. Am.* 78: 852-854.
- 313 25. Orr, C.J., J.J. Obrycki, & R.V. Flanders. 1992. Host-Acceptance behavior of *Dinocampus*
314 *coccinellae* (Shrank) (Hymenoptera: Braconidae). *Ann. Entomol. Soc. Am.* 85: 722-730.
- 315 26. Pennacchio, F.; Strand, M.R. Evolution of Developmental Strategies in Parasitic
316 Hymenoptera. *Annu. Rev. Entomol.* 2006, 51, 233–258.
- 317 27. Sampaio, Marcus Vinicius; Bueno, Vanda Helena Paes; De Conti, Bruno Freitas. “The
318 Effect of the Quality and Size of Host Aphid Species on the Biological Characteristics of

- 319 Aphidius Colemani (Hymenoptera: Braconidae: Aphidiinae).” 2008 European Journal of
320 Entomology, vol. 105, no. 3, p. 489.
- 321 28. Symonds MRE, Elgar MA (2013) The Evolution of Body Size, Antennal Size and Host
322 Use in Parasitoid Wasps (Hymenoptera: Chalcidoidea): A Phylogenetic Comparative Analysis.
323 PLoS ONE 8(10): e78297. <https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0078297>
- 324 29. Traynor RE, Mayhew PJ (2005) A comparative study of body size and clutch size across
325 the parasitoid Hymenoptera. Oikos 109: 305-316. doi:10.1111/j.0030-1299.2005.13666.x.
- 326 30. Ware, R., L-,J. Michie, T. Otani, E. Rhule, & R. Hall. 2010. Adaptation of native
327 parasitoids to a novel host: the invasive coccinellid Harmonia axyridis. IOBC/WPRS Bull. 58:
328 175-182.

329 **Disclosure**

330 The authors declare no conflict of interest, financial or other vested interests in the study species,
331 or industrial applications of the species for biological control

332

333

334

335

336

337

338

339

340

341

342 **Tables and Figures**

343 Table 1: Summary of Coccinellid host (*H. parenthesis*, *H. convergens*, *C. maculata*, *C.*
344 *septempunctata*, *H. axyridis*, *C. munda*) morphometric measurements from the first round of
345 measurements, including abdominal widths, abdominal lengths, pronotum widths, elytron chord
346 lengths, pronotum lengths, body lengths, and body widths, in millimeters. The p-values are
347 derived from Wilcoxon signed-rank tests for significant deviation from mean morphometric
348 measurements within each host species class.

349 Table 2: Summary of parasitoid wasp (*D. coccinellae*) morphometric measurements, including
350 head length, head depth, thorax length, thorax depth, and abdomen length, in millimeters, from
351 the first round of measurements. The p-values are derived from Wilcoxon signed-rank tests for
352 significant deviation from mean morphometric measurements within each host species class.

353 Figure 1: Map of locations from which Coccinellid hosts with their parasitoid wasp were field-
354 collected (except *H. convergens* from Arizona, which was shipped to the authors).

355 Figure 2: Morphometric variables measured from Coccinellid hosts, shown in three perspectives
356 - dorsal, lateral, and venral views. Image courtesy: D. Sustaita.

357 Figure 3: Morphometric variables measured from parasitoid wasps, *D. coccinellae*, shown in a
358 single lateral perspective. Image courtesy: D. sustaita.

359 Figure 4: Box plot summary of Coccinellid host (*H. parenthesis*, *H. convergens*, *C. maculata*, *C.*
360 *septempunctata*, *H. axyridis*, *C. munda*) morphometric measurements from the first round of
361 measurements, including abdominal widths, abdominal lengths, pronotum widths, elytron chord
362 lengths, pronotum lengths, body lengths, and body widths, in millimeters. Shown are means, and
363 interquartile ranges within each measurement.

364 Figure 5: Box plot summary of parasitoid wasp (*D. coccinellae*) morphometric measurements,
365 including head length, head depth, thorax length, thorax depth, and abdomen length, in
366 millimeters, from the first round of measurements, categorized by their respective host species.
367 Shown are means, interquartile ranges within each measurement. These measurements are
368 consistent with observations on *D. coccinellae* in Table 2 of Obrycki 1988.

369 Figure 6: Regression of coccinellid host dry weight versus parasitoid wasp dry weight in
370 milligrams, showing the positive correlation between size of the host and the size of its parasitoid
371 wasp. $R^2 = 0.407$, $p\text{-value} = 3.09e-11$.

372 Figure 7: A Principal Components Analysis (PCA) plot of all variability in morphometric
373 measurements from parasitoid wasps, and their coccinellid hosts from round 1 of measurements.
374 The first two PC's accounted for most of the variability in the data (PC1: 62.1%, PC2: 13.2%),
375 with the PC1 describing variation in the coccinellid host morphometrics, and PC2 describing
376 variation in the parasitoid wasp morphometrics.

377

378

379

380

381

382

383

384

385

386 *Table 1*

387

	Host Length						
Coccinellid Host							
	Abdominal Width	Abdominal Length	Pronotum Width	Elytron Chord Length	Pronotum Length	Body Length	Body Width
<i>H. parenthesis</i>	2.47 (sd = 0.2, p-value = 2.384e-07, min = 1.92, median = 2.48, max = 2.76,)	3.42 (sd = 0.22, p-value = 2.886e-05, min = 2.82, median = 3.43, max = 3.7,)	1.98 (sd = 0.15, p-value = 2.883e-05, min = 1.64, median = 2.01, max = 2.24,)	3.85 (sd = 0.25, p-value = 2.384e-07, min = 3.21, median = 3.96, max = 4.22,)	1.24 (sd = 0.1, p-value = 2.886e-05, min = 1.05, median = 1.23, max = 1.47,)	4.9 (sd = 0.39, p-value = 2.384e-07, min = 4.26, median = 4.81, max = 5.76,)	2.91 (sd = 0.2, p-value = 2.384e-07, min = 2.4, median = 2.93, max = 3.24,)
<i>H. convergens</i>	3.18 (sd = 0.27, p-value = 0.001656, min = 2.77, median = 3.06, max = 3.7,)	4.41 (sd = 0.42, p-value = 0.0002441, min = 3.84, median = 4.35, max = 5.22,)	2.41 (sd = 0.18, p-value = 0.0002441, min = 2.19, median = 2.35, max = 2.77,)	4.81 (sd = 0.6, p-value = 0.0002441, min = 3.39, median = 4.65, max = 5.68,)	1.54 (sd = 0.11, p-value = 0.0002441, min = 1.38, median = 1.55, max = 1.76,)	5.96 (sd = 0.46, p-value = 0.0002441, min = 5.3, median = 5.9, max = 6.82,)	3.78 (sd = 0.32, p-value = 0.0002441, min = 3.43, median = 3.64, max = 4.52,)
<i>C. maculata</i>	2.6 (sd = 0.19, p-value = 2.328e-10, min = 2, median = 2.6, max = 2.94,)	3.96 (sd = 0.28, p-value = 2.328e-10, min = 3.02, median = 4.01, max = 4.38,)	2.1 (sd = 0.12, p-value = 5.63e-07, min = 1.72, median = 2.1, max = 2.37,)	4.35 (sd = 0.35, p-value = 2.328e-10, min = 3.32, median = 4.31, max = 5.37,)	1.3 (sd = 0.12, p-value = 5.642e-07, min = 1.06, median = 1.31, max = 1.51,)	5.61 (sd = 0.41, p-value = 2.328e-10, min = 4.37, median = 5.72, max = 6.26,)	3.21 (sd = 0.22, p-value = 2.328e-10, min = 2.53, median = 3.22, max = 3.66,)
<i>H. axyridis</i>	4.32 (sd = 0.28, p-value = 0.125, min = 3.97, median = 4.34, max = 4.63,)	5.21 (sd = 0.2, p-value = 0.125, min = 4.96, median = 5.24, max = 5.39,)	3.09 (sd = 0.2, p-value = 0.125, min = 2.85, median = 3.08, max = 3.34,)	5.79 (sd = 0.27, p-value = 0.125, min = 5.57, median = 5.73, max = 6.15,)	1.9 (sd = 0.06, p-value = 0.125, min = 1.85, median = 1.89, max = 1.98,)	6.81 (sd = 0.21, p-value = 0.125, min = 6.59, median = 6.79, max = 7.07,)	5.44 (sd = 0.27, p-value = 0.125, min = 5.05, median = 5.52, max = 5.66,)

<i>C. munda</i>	2.73 (sd = 0.27, p-value = 0.003906, min = 2.34, median = 2.71, max = 3.12,)	3.36 (sd = 0.38, p-value = 0.003906, min = 2.91, median = 3.17, max = 4.00,)	2.26 (sd = 0.18, p-value = 0.003906, min = 2.05, median = 2.23, max = 2.51,)	4.08 (sd = 0.64, p-value = 0.003906, min = 3.38, median = 3.96, max = 5.5,)	1.34 (sd = 0.07, p-value = 0.003906, min = 1.22, median = 1.37, max = 1.41,)	4.58 (sd = 0.45, p-value = 0.003906, min = 3.98, median = 4.52, max = 5.28,)	3.69 (sd = 0.3, p-value = 0.003906, min = 3.18, median = 3.69, max = 4.14,)
<i>C7</i>	4.08 (sd = 0.41, p-value = 0.02225, min = 3.93, median = 3.74, max = 4.86,)	5.19 (sd = 0.53, p-value = 0.01563, min = 4.72, median = 4.91, max = 6.17,)	3.26 (sd = 0.34, p-value = 0.01563, min = 2.93, median = 3.07, max = 3.78,)	5.57 (sd = 0.92, p-value = 0.01563, min = 4.21, median = 5.8, max = 6.89,)	2.01 (sd = 0.42, p-value = 0.01563, min = 1.13, median = 2.09, max = 2.48,)	6.85 (sd = 0.64, p-value = 0.01563, min = 6.33, median = 6.52, max = 8.1,)	5.4 (sd = 0.44, p-value = 0.01563, min = 4.81, median = 5.54, max = 5.98,)

388

389

390

391

392

393

394

395

396

397

398

399

400

401

402

403 *Table 2*

	Wasp Length				
<i>Coccinellid Host</i>					
	Head Length	Head Depth	Thorax Length	Thorax Depth	Abdomen Length
<i>H. parenthesis</i>	0.77 (sd = 0.05, p-value = 2.384e-07, min = 0.65, median = 0.77, max = 0.83,)	0.49 (sd = 0.04, p-value = 2.88e-05, min = 0.43, median = 0.48, max = 0.56,)	1.28 (sd = 0.15, p-value = 2.384e-07, min = 0.94, median = 1.29, max = 1.62,)	0.68 (sd = 0.09, p-value = 2.886e-05, min = 0.5, median = 0.7, max = 0.87,)	2.52 (sd = 0.37, p-value = 2.384e-07, min = 1.85, median = 2.44, max = 3.18,)
<i>H. convergens</i>	0.82 (sd = 0.05, p-value = 0.0002441, min = 0.71, median = 0.83, max = 0.93,)	0.51 (sd = 0.05, p-value = 0.001651, min = 0.42, median = 0.51, max = 0.58,)	1.35 (sd = 0.11, p-value = 0.0002441, min = 1.21, median = 1.33, max = 1.56,)	0.72 (sd = 0.07, p-value = 0.0002441, min = 0.61, median = 0.7, max = 0.84,)	2.52 (sd = 0.37, p-value = 0.0002441, min = 2.00, median = 2.48, max = 3.13,)
<i>C. maculata</i>	0.78 (sd = 0.05, p-value = 5.639e-07, min = 0.67, median = 0.78, max = 0.91,)	0.5 (sd = 0.05, p-value = 5.636e-07, min = 0.37, median = 0.51, max = 0.63,)	1.29 (sd = 0.14, p-value = 5.642e-07, min = 0.92, median = 1.3, max = 1.51,)	0.7 (sd = 0.1, p-value = 5.639e-07, min = 0.5, median = 0.69, max = 0.91,)	2.35 (sd = 0.33, p-value = 2.328e-10, min = 1.68, median = 2.28, max = 3.12,)
<i>H. axyridis</i>	0.86 (sd = 0.03, p-value = 0.09751, min = 0.83, median = 0.85, max = 0.9,)	0.61 (sd = 0.02, p-value = 0.125, min = 0.58, median = 0.62, max = 0.64,)	1.44 (sd = 0.05, p-value = 0.125, min = 1.37, median = 1.45, max = 1.49,)	0.79 (sd = 0.1, p-value = 0.125, min = 0.66, median = 0.81, max = 0.9,)	2.93 (sd = 0.45, p-value = 0.125, min = 2.54, median = 2.83, max = 3.51,)
<i>C. munda</i>	0.76 (sd = 0.05, p-value = 0.003906, min = 0.67, median = 0.77, max = 0.82,)	0.53 (sd = 0.05, p-value = 0.009091, min = 0.46, median = 0.52, max = 0.6,)	1.26 (sd = 0.1, p-value = 0.009091, min = 1.07, median = 1.29, max = 1.44,)	0.69 (sd = 0.03, p-value = 0.003906, min = 0.65, median = 0.69, max = 0.72,)	2.27 (sd = 0.4, p-value = 0.003906, min = 1.85, median = 2.18, max = 3.2,)
<i>C7</i>	0.87 (sd = 0.05, p-value = 0.01563, min = 0.8, median = 0.87, max = 0.96,)	0.52 (sd = 0.06, p-value = 0.01563, min = 0.42, median = 0.52, max = 0.58,)	1.55 (sd = 0.1, p-value = 0.01563, min = 1.37, median = 1.57, max = 1.65,)	0.82 (sd = 0.06, p-value = 0.01563, min = 0.75, median = 0.84, max = 0.88,)	2.89 (sd = 0.37, p-value = 0.01563, min = 2.26, median = 2.88, max = 3.36,)

404

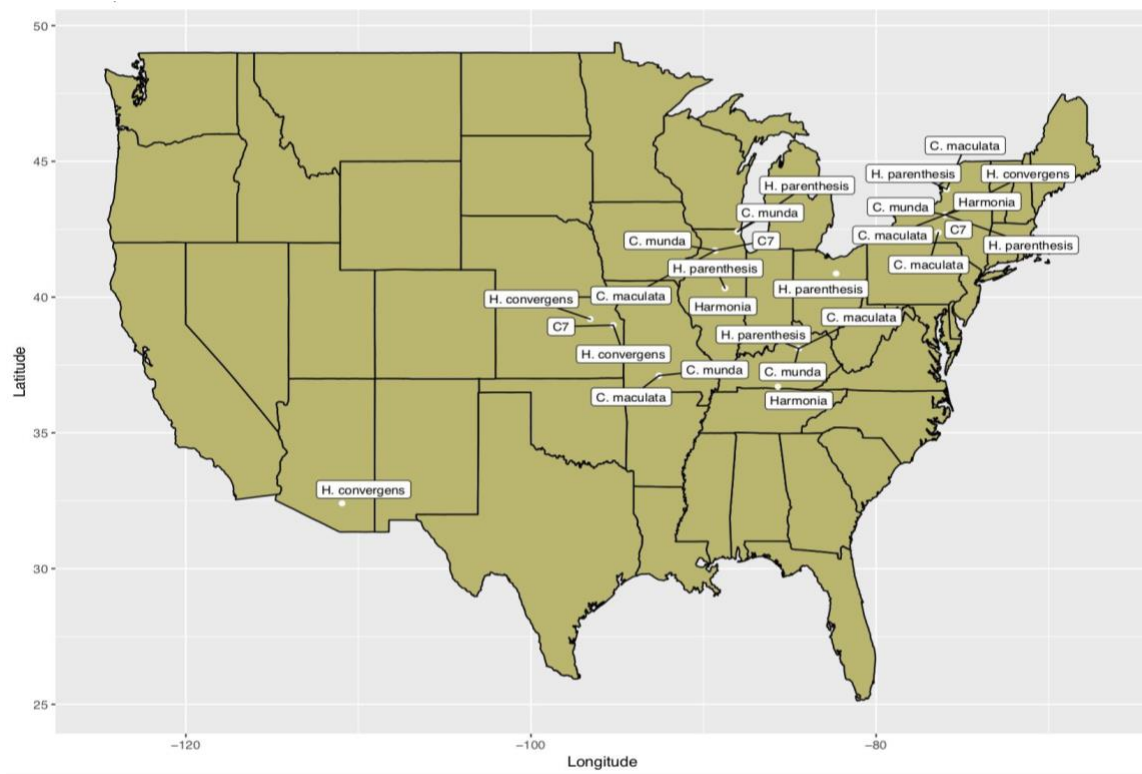
405

406

407

408

409



410

411 *Figure 1*

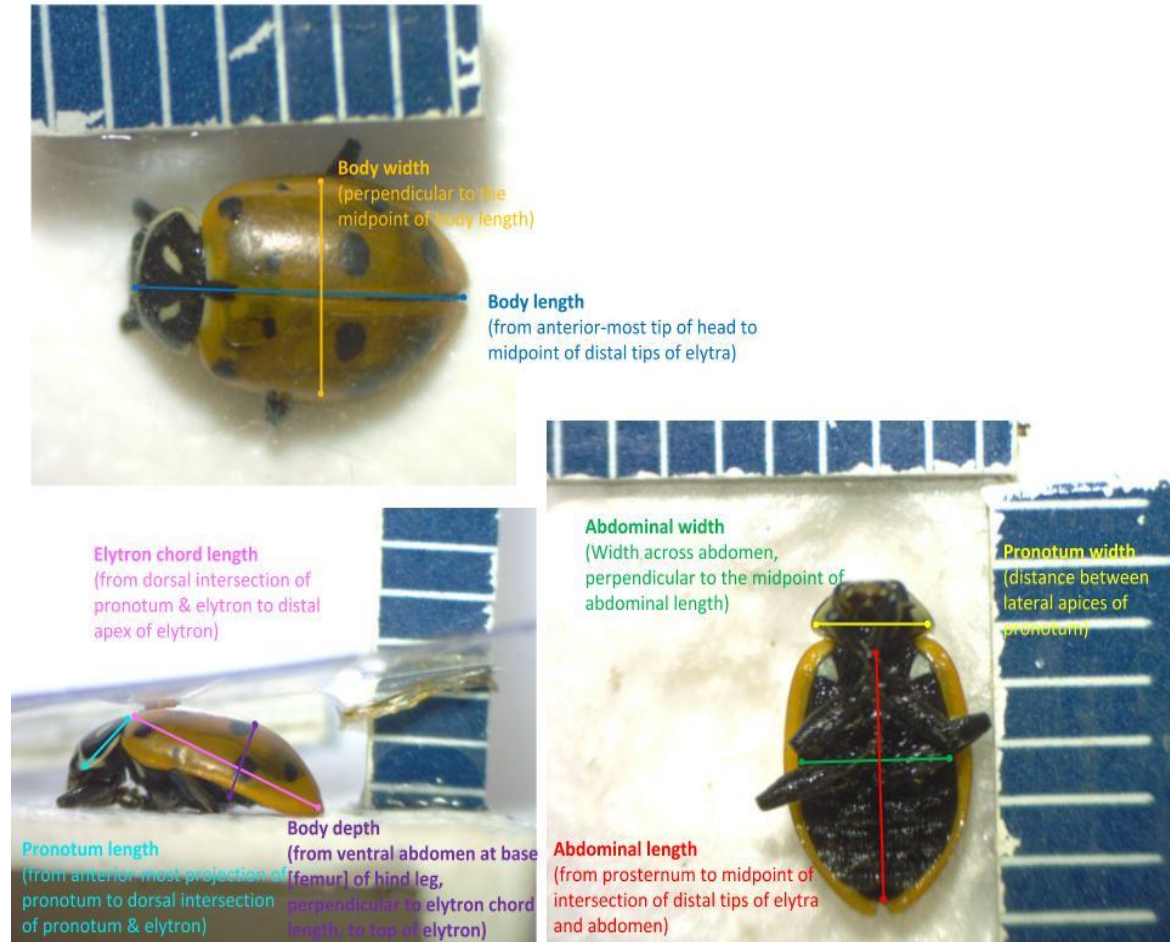
412

413

414

415

416



417

418 *Figure 2*

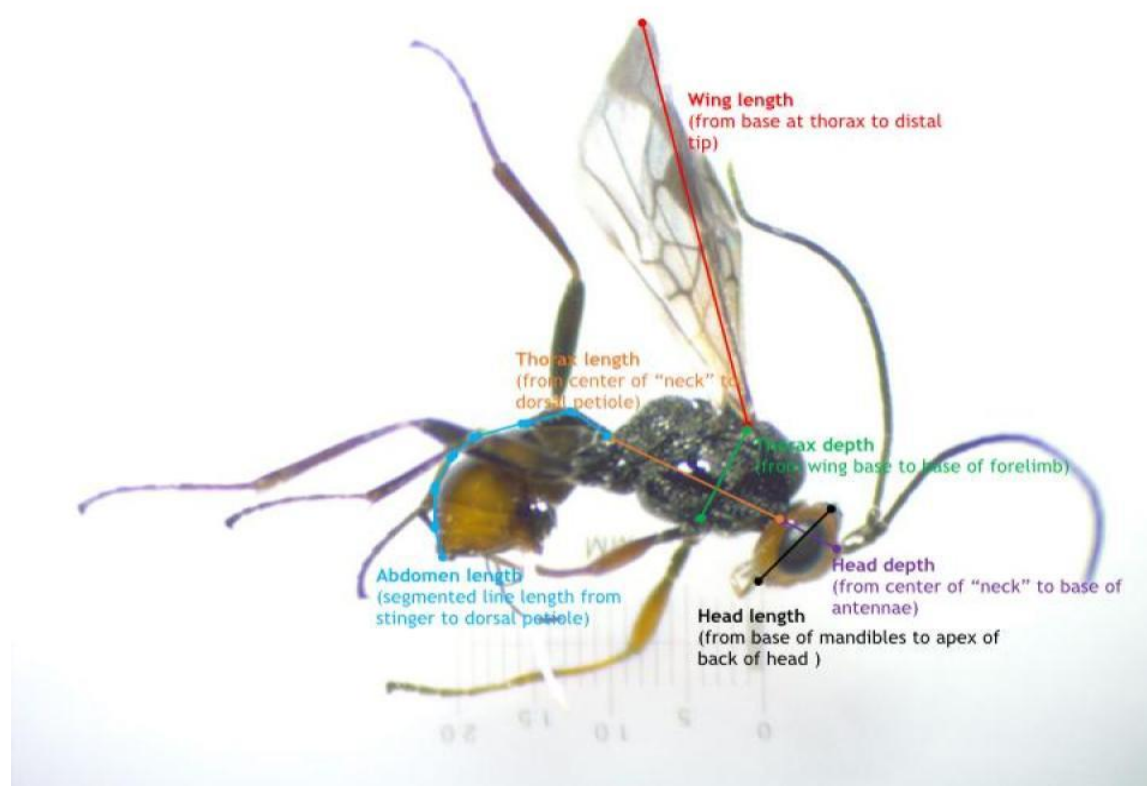
419

420

421

422

423

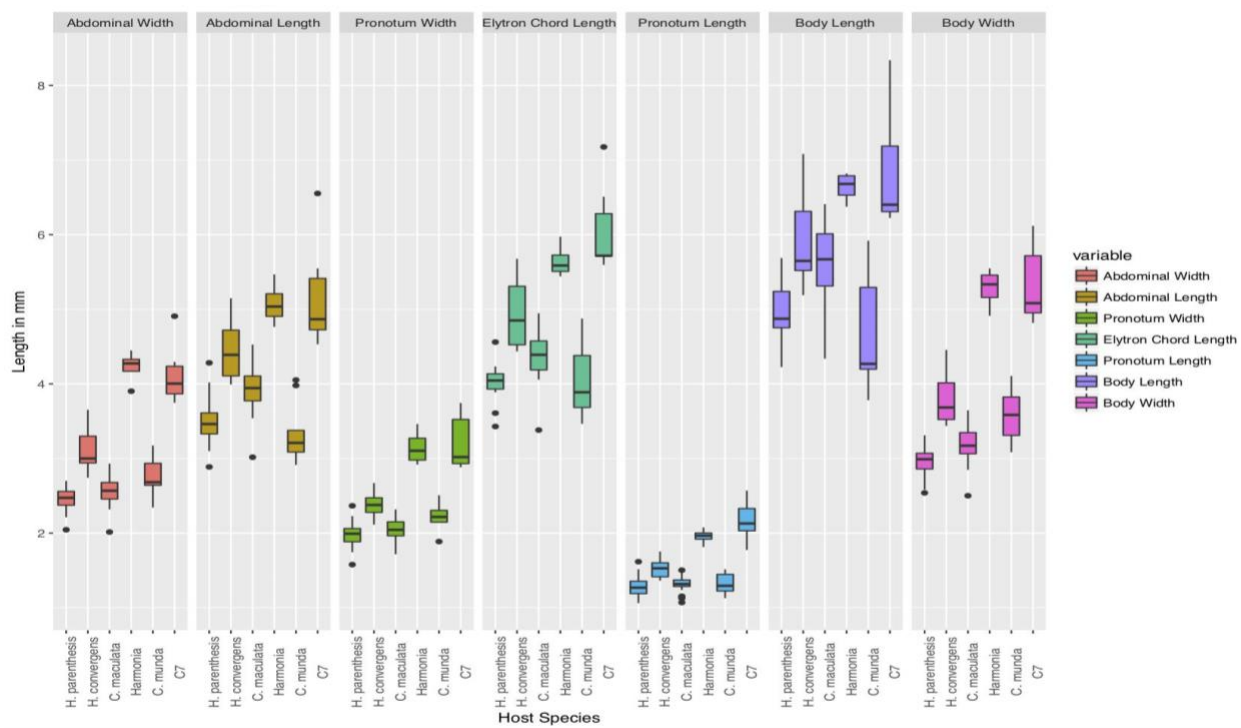


424

425 *Figure 3*

426

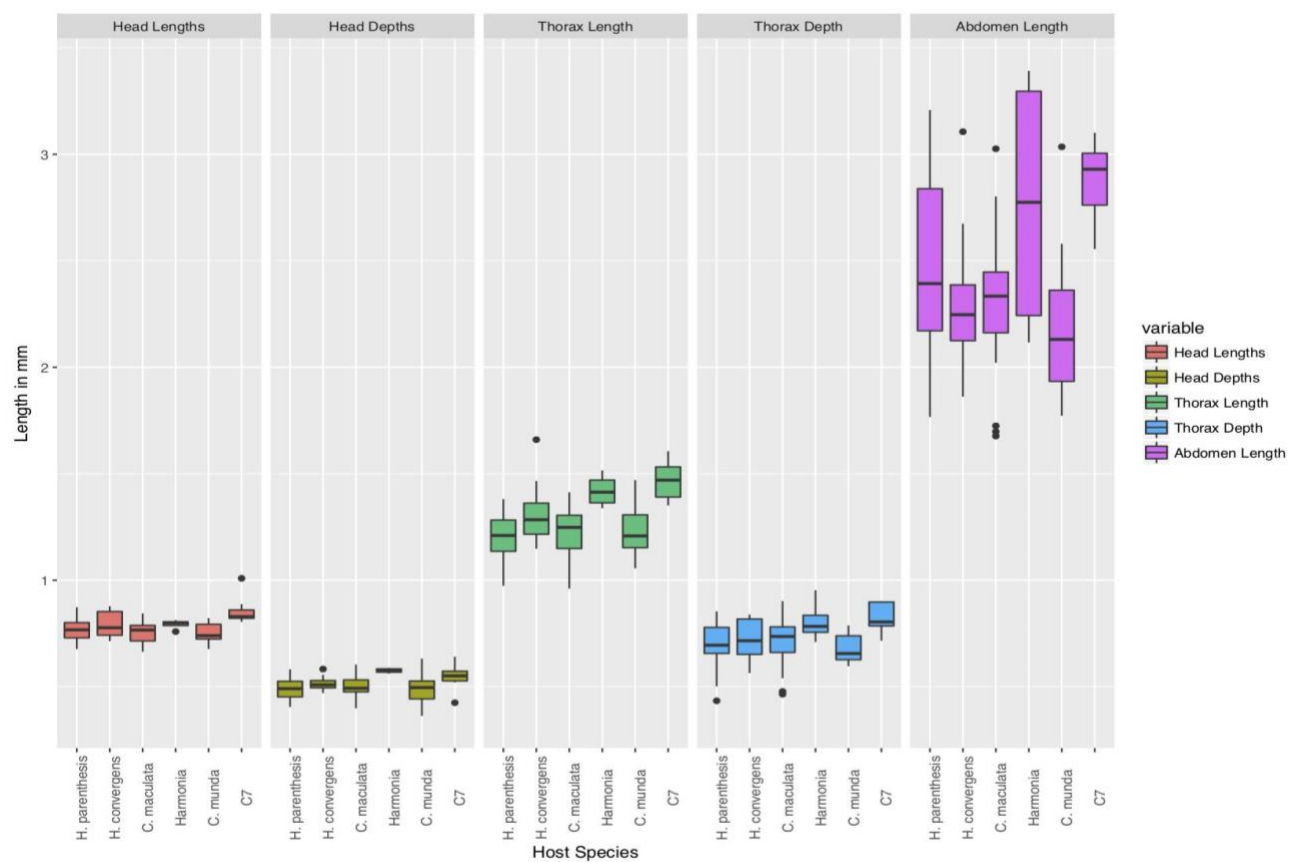
427



428

429 *Figure 4*

430



431

432 *Figure 5*

433

434

435

436

437

438

439

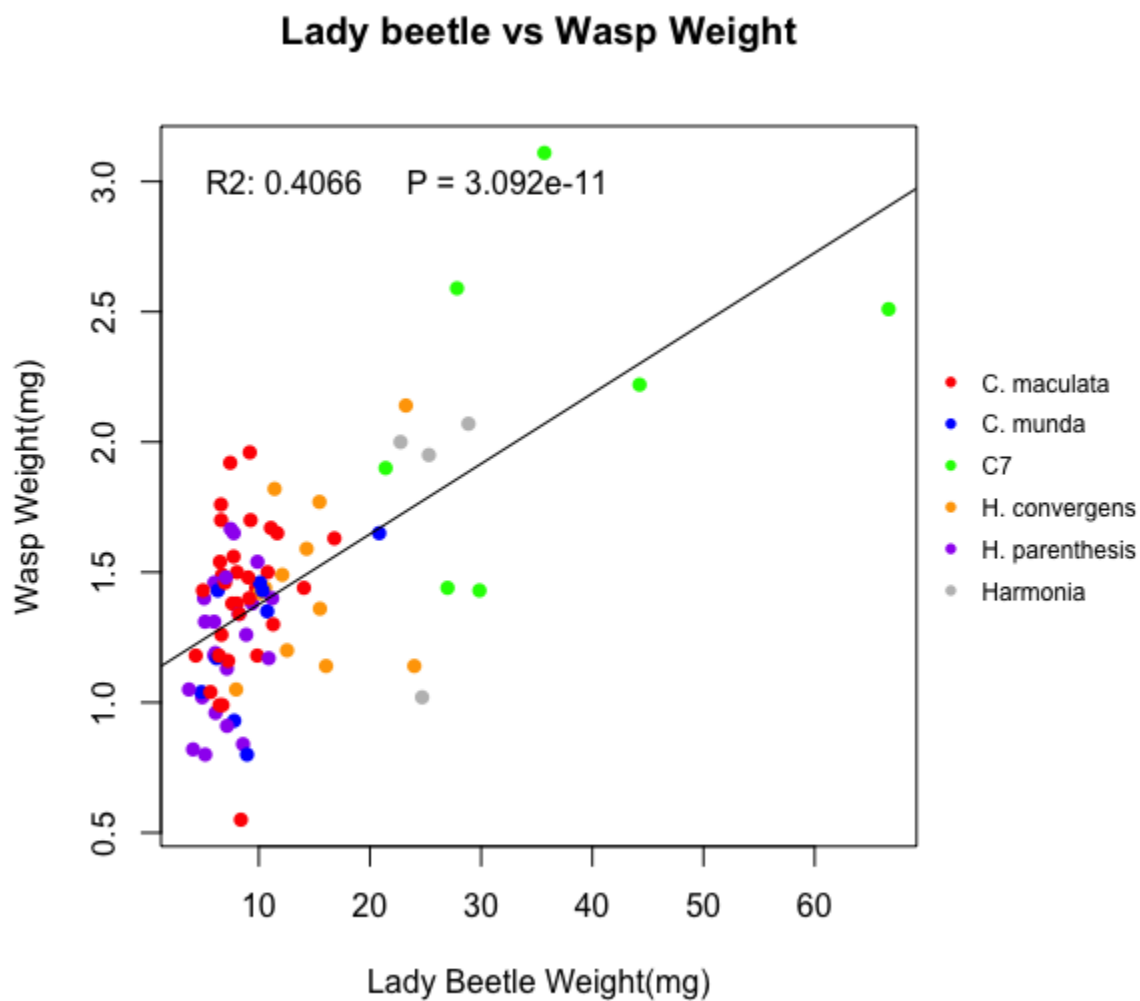
440

441

442

443

444



445

446 *Figure 6*

447

448

449

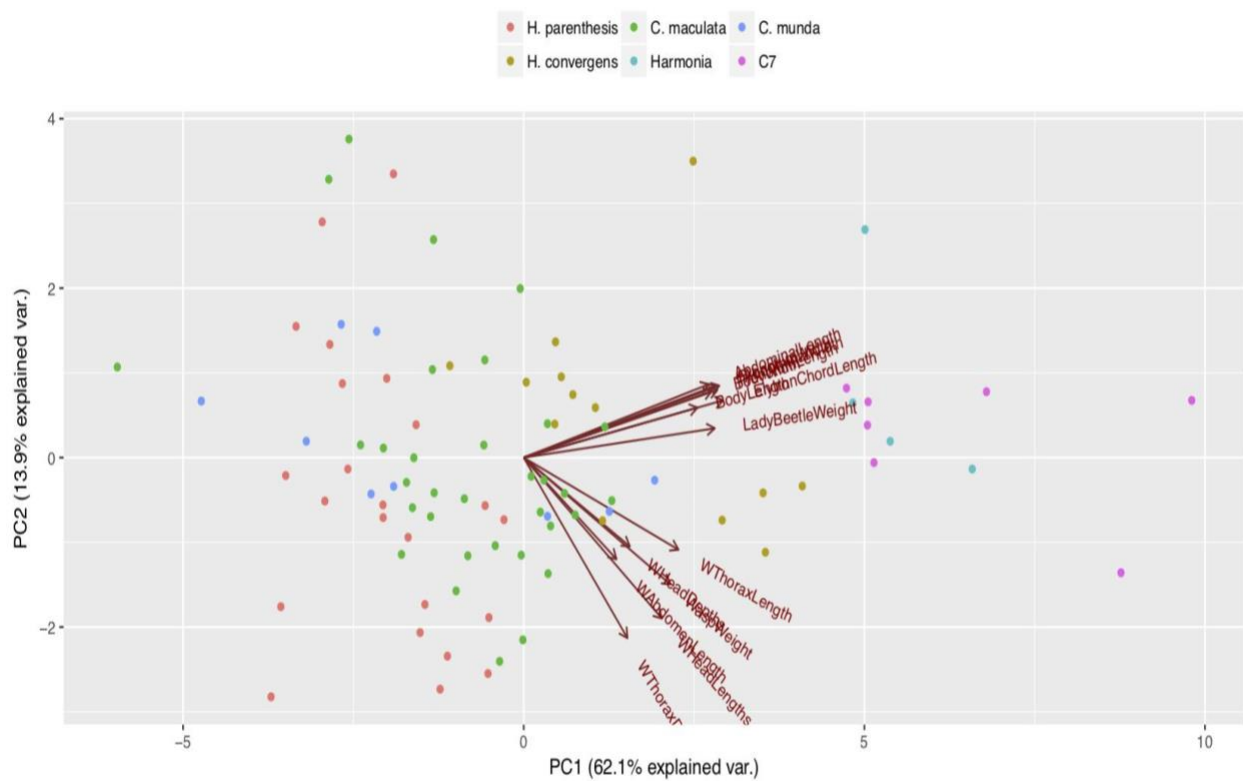
450

451

452

453

454



455

456 *Figure 7*

457