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3	Potential biocontrol of the greater wax moth, Galleria mellonella L. (Lepidoptera: Pyralidae) and mass rearing of the parasitic mite, Pyemotes scolyti Oud. (acari: Pyemotidae)	
Authors	El-Khouly, N. M. A & Abd-Elgayed, A. A Plant Protection Department, Faculty of Agriculture, Fayoum University, Egypt	
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ABSTRACT

The present work was carried out to test the possible biocontrol of the greater wax moth, *Galleria mellonella* L. (Lepidoptera: Pyralidae) by the parasitic mite, *Pyemotes scolyti* Oud. (Acari: Pyemotidae) and mass rearing of the mite on this pest. Experiments were carried out at the Plant Protection Department, Faculty of Agriculture, Fayoum University, Egypt, during 2018-2019 years. Rearing conditions, i.e. $25 \pm 1^{\circ}$ C and 70 ± 5 % RH were applied. The obtained results showed that duration of immature stages of *P. scolyti* ranged between 6-9 days. Mean count of emerged offspring was 198.22 individuals/ gravid female mite. The male mite lived for 1.20 day, while the female lived for 8.90 days. During bioassay test of different stages of the moth, larvae seemed to be a preferable host for the tested mite compared with pupae or adults. Further investigations should be carried out to clarify the mite-wax moth-honey bee-interactions.

Keywords: Biocontrol, Mass rearing, Pyemotes scolyti, Galleria mellonella.