

Letter to the editor

**NEW REPORTS OF PARASITOIDS OF COLEOPTERANS IN FOOD
WAREHOUSES OF MATANZAS CITY**

Biological control by using beneficial arthropods is a vital alternative for the Integrated Pest Management in food warehouses. Pteromalidae and Bethyilidae families included several parasitoid species showing a high capacity of host foraging and parasitism rate against grain pest coleopterans. In Cuba, *Anisopteromalus calandrae* Howard (Hymenoptera: Pteromalidae) and the genus *Cephalonomia* West. (Hymenoptera: Bethyilidae) have been reported as parasites of small coleopterans. Recently, the parasitoids *A. calandrae*, *Cephalonomia* West and *Pseudomicromelus* Gahan and Fagam genera were detected in the warehouse 302, belonging to the Ministry of Domestic Trade (MINCIN) of Matanzas city, and in the food storehouse of Matanzas University. Those species were found associated with *Lasioderma serricorne* (Fab.), *Sitophilus oryzae* (L.) and *Zabrotes subfasciatus* (Boh.), pest insects which caused damages on stored grains such as bean, soybean protein, rice, corn, lentil and pea stored, respectively. *Pseudomicromelus* is considered a new genus recorded for Cuba according to the taxonomic criteria offered by Grillo (2008). The specimens are available at the Entomology Department of Matanzas Plant Protection Laboratory.

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