



Entomopathogenic protists of forest insects in Turkey

Mustafa Yaman*

Department of Biology, Faculty of Science, Karadeniz Technical University, Trabzon, TURKEY

* Corresponding author: muyaman@hotmail.com

Abstract: Protist pathogens infecting insects are known as entomopathogenic protists. These organisms are among the most diverse of insect pathogens. This group is currently reviewed in the taxa Amoebozoa, Apicomplexa, Ciliophora, Euglenozoa and Helicosporidia. As a pathogenic group, Microsporida is included by some researchers in protists. Entomopathogenic protists are found in nature and commonly isolated from host insects. According to the current literatures, they cause two type-important infections in forest insects in Turkey; desirable infections in forest pest insects and undesirable infections in predatory beetles. Both infections play important roles in forest pest controlling. Several new species have been identified from both useful and harmful forest insects. However, studies on them are partial with species description and geographical distribution. Transmission, host range, host-pathogen associations and potential use in biological control are poorly researched. In this presentation, a review of recent situation of entomopathogenic protists in forest insects in Turkey is given with the species lists from different groups.

Keywords: Entomopathogenic protists, Forest insects, Turkey