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NON-REPRODUCTIVE EFFECTS OF INSECT PARASITOIDS ON THEIR HOSTS

Paul K. Abram^{1*}, Jacques Brodeur², Alberto Urbaneja³ and Alejandro Tena³

*¹Agassiz Research and Development Centre, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada,
Canada*

²Département de Sciences Biologiques, Université de Montréal

³Instituto Valenciano de Investigaciones Agrarias, Spain, Moncada, Valencia, 46113

*Corresponding author: email: paul.abram@canada.ca

14 **ABSTRACT**

15 The main modes of action of insect parasitoids are considered to be killing their hosts
16 with egg laying followed by offspring development (reproductive mortality), and
17 feeding on them directly (host feeding). However, parasitoids can also negatively affect
18 their hosts in ways that do not contribute to current or future parasitoid reproduction
19 (non-reproductive effects). Outcomes of non-reproductive effects for hosts can include
20 death, altered behavior, altered reproduction, and altered development. Based on these
21 outcomes and the variety of associated mechanisms we categorize non-reproductive
22 effects into: (i) non-consumptive effects; (ii) mutilation; (iii) pseudoparasitism; (iv)
23 immune defense costs; and (v) aborted parasitism. These effects are widespread and can
24 cause greater impacts on host populations than successful parasitism or host feeding.
25 Non-reproductive effects constitute a hidden dimension of host-parasitoid trophic
26 networks, with theoretical implications for community ecology as well as applied
27 importance for the evaluation of ecosystem services provided by parasitoid biological
28 control agents.

29

30

31 **Keywords:** parasitism, population dynamics, trophic networks, pseudoparasitism, non-
32 consumptive effects, mutilation

33 1. INTRODUCTION

34 Insect parasitoids are important components of natural communities and are used to control
35 insect pests in biological control programs worldwide, in addition to being fruitful models in
36 theoretical ecology (Godfray 1994; Jervis 2007; Wajnberg et al. 2008; Heimpel and Mills
37 2017). As biological control agents, their main mode of action is considered to be killing their
38 hosts as a result of egg laying and offspring development, what we will term “reproductive
39 parasitoid-induced mortality” (Fig. 1A). In many parasitoid species, adult females also feed
40 directly on hosts (Jervis & Kidd 1986). Host feeding is another well understood mode of
41 action of parasitoids, and contributes to future parasitoid reproduction (*via* nutrient intake
42 necessary for egg maturation) while often causing host death (Fig. 1B) (Kidd and Jervis
43 1989; Heimpel and Rosenheim 1995; Giron et al. 2004). Parasitoids can, however, negatively
44 affect their hosts without their offspring successfully developing or directly feeding on them.
45 These modes of action – which we will term “non-reproductive effects” – can have a variety
46 of negative consequences for hosts (including mortality), but do not carry clear benefits for
47 parasitoids in terms of current or future reproduction (Fig. 1C).

48 Non-reproductive effects of parasitoids on their hosts and their associated mechanisms
49 and outcomes are scattered throughout the scientific literature under highly variable
50 terminology, and have never been properly defined and categorized. For example, at least
51 nine terms have previously been used to describe host mortality without parasitoid
52 reproduction: unsuccessful parasitism, non-reproductive killing, hypersensitivity, dudding,
53 host destruction, surplus killing, abortion, residual mortality, and parasitoid-induced other
54 mortality. These effects remain largely underappreciated and it is likely that they have often
55 been overlooked. As previously recognized by several authors (e.g., Legner 1979; Van
56 Driesche 1983; Barnay et al. 1999), failing to explicitly consider and measure non-
57 reproductive effects underestimates the impact of parasitoids by neglecting a major
58 component of their direct and indirect ecological effects within insect communities. Ignoring
59 non-reproductive effects also reduces the realism of host-parasitoid trophic networks and
60 population dynamics models, most of which currently assume that each parasitoid oviposition
61 results in host death and parasitoid offspring production (*sensu* Brodeur and Rosenheim
62 2000; Condon et al. 2014; but see Heimpel et al. 2003; Abram et al. 2016; Kaser and Heimpel
63 2015; Kaser et al. 2018). The aim of this paper is to review and categorize the effects of
64 parasitoids that do not involve host feeding or the successful production of offspring, but have

65 consequences for host and parasitoid fitness – and, therefore, have important implications for
66 the evolution of host-parasitoid interactions, population dynamics, and biological control.

67 **2. MECHANISMS AND CONSEQUENCES OF NON-REPRODUCTIVE EFFECTS**

68 Parasitism involves a sequence of processes that enables parasitoids to locate, select,
69 parasitize, and alter host physiology to allow the development of their offspring in the
70 selected hosts (Vinson 1976; Vet and Dicke, 1992; Godfray 1994). During this sequence,
71 several mechanisms can result in a variety of outcomes that affect host and parasitoid fitness,
72 even when the encounter does not end with the successful development of the parasitoid's
73 offspring (Fig. 2). Based on these mechanism-outcome associations, we propose a
74 classification system, which will help to unify terminology and describe parasitoids' non-
75 reproductive effects in the future. We classified mechanisms following the chronological
76 order of the parasitism sequence: (i) host searching and acceptance behaviors that occur
77 before ovipositor probing; (ii) ovipositor probing that includes physical damage and injection
78 of chemical (e.g., venom) or biological (e.g., symbionts, viruses) factors; and (iii) egg laying
79 followed by unsuccessful development of immature parasitoids (as eggs, larvae, or pupae)
80 (Fig. 2). The resulting effects of each of these mechanisms can have a variety of outcomes for
81 hosts. The outcomes, in order of increasing general impact on host fitness, are: (i) altered
82 behavior; (ii) altered development; (iii) altered reproduction; and (iv) death (Fig. 2). Based on
83 the processes resulting from each mechanism, we developed unified terms for five types of
84 non-reproductive effects (Fig. 2), which are reviewed below. Terms were chosen based on
85 their descriptive value as well as their current level of usage in the literature we reviewed.

86

87 **2.1 Non-consumptive effects**

88 Non-consumptive (or “trait-mediated”) interactions, constituting effects of natural enemies
89 that do not result in prey or host consumption but cause them to adopt costly defensive
90 behaviors, are increasingly being recognized as critically important components of ecological
91 processes (Priesser and Bolnick 2008; Hermann and Landis 2017). For parasitoids, non-
92 consumptive interactions refer to non-reproductive effects in which parasitoids reduce host
93 fitness, which can occur before they insert their ovipositor into the host but could also result
94 from unsuccessful attacks by the parasitoid that hosts survive. One of the best-known
95 examples is the dispersion of aphids responding to the alarm pheromone of nearby
96 conspecifics being attacked by parasitoids. Many of these dispersing aphids drop from the

97 plant to the ground (Tamaki et al. 1970; Dill et al. 1990; Gowling and van Emden 1994) and
98 some of them that cannot return to the plant die from starvation, desiccation (especially at
99 high temperatures), or predation by ground-dwelling arthropods (Gowling and van Emden
100 1994; Roitberg and Myers 1979). Similar effects may also result from aphids being directly
101 contacted by parasitoids (e.g., through antennation) (Ingerslew and Finke 2016). Tamaki et
102 al. (1970) were the first to measure the population-level consequences of non-consumptive
103 effects in an aphid population using the pea aphid *Acrythosiphon pisum* (Harris) (Hemiptera:
104 Aphididae). They showed that altered females (with ablated ovipositors that prevent
105 parasitism) of the parasitoid *Aphidius smithi* Sharma & Subba Rao (Hymenoptera:
106 Braconidae) caused about a 30% reduction in population growth of aphids relative to
107 undisturbed controls. The presence of parasitoids can also alter host development (Fig. 2).
108 For example, the proportion of winged dispersing offspring of the pea aphid *A. pisum*
109 increases between 10-30% when female parasitoids were present (Sloggett and Weisser,
110 2002).

111 Other non-consumptive effect of parasitoids that result in costly host behavioral
112 modification has been described in the seed beetle *Mimosestes amicus* (Horn) (Coleoptera:
113 Bruchidae). Females sometimes cover their viable eggs with additional unviable eggs to
114 reduce mortality of the protected eggs from parasitism by *Uscana semifumipennis* Girault
115 (Hymenoptera: Trichogrammatidae) when adults or immature stages (i.e., parasitized eggs) of
116 the parasitoid are present (Deas and Hunter 2011, 2013). However, this defensive strategy
117 also incurs a cost for the host; the reproductive output of parasitoid-exposed beetles (which
118 show high rates of defensive egg stacking) is up to ~50% lower than that of control beetles
119 (Deas and Hunter 2011).

120 121 **2.2 Mutilation and pseudoparasitism**

122 When female parasitoids find a host, they may insert their ovipositor to assess the suitability
123 of the host or to destroy competing offspring (ovicide or larvicide) before laying eggs. During
124 this process, which may involve the injection of viruses, venom, teratocytes, or other
125 biological/chemical factors, parasitoids may ultimately reject the hosts, or can be disrupted by
126 predators, host defensive behaviors, competitors, or abiotic factors before laying an egg. For
127 example, the parasitoid complex of the moth *Epinotia tedella* (Clerck) (Lepidoptera:
128 Tortricidae) rejects about 75% of the larvae they probe (Münster-Swendsen 2002).
129 Oviposition by parasitoids in the genera *Aphytis* (Hymenoptera: Aphelinidae) and
130 *Metaphycus* (Hymenoptera: Encyrtidae) is often disrupted by ants (Barzman and Daane 2001;

131 Martinez-Ferrer et al. 2002). Two different, but often coinciding, non-reproductive effects
132 can result from ovipositor insertion without egg laying: mutilation and pseudoparasitism (Fig.
133 2). While mutilation can result from the mechanical damage (i.e., puncturing) to hosts
134 resulting from ovipositor insertion during probing (Flanders 1953; Quendau et al. 1970),
135 pseudoparasitism occurs when parasitoids inject chemical substances without laying eggs that
136 alter host physiology (Jones et al. 1981; Münster-Swendsen 1994).

137 The most commonly reported outcome of mutilation and pseudoparasitism on hosts is
138 death. Interestingly, when parasitism, host feeding and mutilation/pseudoparasitism have
139 been measured in a given host-parasitoid association, mutilation/pseudoparasitism can
140 sometimes be the principal cause of host mortality. For example, Campbell (1963) estimated
141 that *Itopectis conquisitor* (Say) (Hymenoptera: Braconidae), a parasitoid of the gypsy moth
142 *Lymantria dispar* (L.) (Lepidoptera: Lymantriidae), kills three hosts by lethal probing for
143 every one host killed by host feeding, and 200 hosts by lethal probing for every one
144 parasitoid offspring produced. Mutilation and pseudoparasitism can also have sub-lethal
145 effects for surviving hosts, resulting in lower reproductive output (Cebolla et al. 2018;
146 Ingerslew and Finke 2016). Finally, it is possible that mutilation may favor secondary
147 infection of hosts by entomopathogens. Despite their potential detrimental effects on host
148 populations, mutilation and pseudoparasitism have often been underestimated. Indeed, these
149 effects are not always discernible from other causes (Legner 1979; Barrett and Brunner 1990;
150 Mandeville and Mulleins 1992; Urbaneja et al. 2000; Lysyk et al. 2004; Grabenweger et al.
151 2009; Keinan et al. 2012), or are sometimes erroneously attributed to host feeding (e.g.,
152 DeBach 1943).

153 In some cases, effects of mutilation can be separated from unequivocal
154 pseudoparasitism, which refers to the physiological changes in living hosts resulting from the
155 injection of biological/chemical factors by parasitoid females or larvae (Brown and Kainoh
156 1992; Jones et al. 1986b; Munster-Swendsen 1994; Tillinger et al., 2004; Vereijssen et al.
157 2011). Host regulation by parasitoids (*sensu* Vinson and Iwantsch 1980) begins with the
158 injection of various factors when adult females probe hosts, even in the absence of
159 oviposition or immature parasitoid development (Jones 1986). The chemical composition of
160 injected substances and their effects on host physiology were reviewed in detail by Asgari
161 and Rivers (2011) and Strand (2014). Pseudoparasitism can result in temporary or permanent
162 paralysis, suppression of immune responses, altered host development, reduced adult
163 longevity and fecundity, host castration, and death (Tillinger et al., 2004; Asgari and Rivers
164 2011; Ingerslew and Finke 2016). These effects arise from the need of parasitoids to regulate

165 host endocrinology in order to successfully complete immature development (Strand et al.,
166 1983; Jones 1986; Asgari and Rivers 2011), but in the case of pseudoparasitism they
167 represent pathological symptoms with no function for the parasitoid. Unfortunately, studies
168 focusing on host-parasitoid physiological interactions are rarely accompanied by
169 investigations of the frequency of pseudoparasitism in nature and its implications for host-
170 parasitoid evolutionary relationships, population dynamics, and biological control. One
171 notable exception consists of several studies of the forest pest *Epinotia tedella* (Cl.)
172 (Lepidoptera: Tortricidae) in Denmark (Münster-Swendsen 1994, 2002). In this system, host
173 larvae often escape parasitism by *Apanteles* (Hymenoptera: Braconidae) and *Pimplopterus*
174 (Hymenoptera: Ichneumonidae) following probing but before the parasitoid lays an egg,
175 possibly due to environmental factors and/or host defensive behavior. However, parasitoid
176 probing (which likely includes the injection of chemical substances) results in less fertile or
177 completely sterile hosts. Population dynamic models fit to long-term host-parasitoid
178 population data showed that rates of successful parasitism were too low to account for the
179 high correspondence between relative parasitism rates and variation in host densities from
180 year to year. Rather, reduced host fertility (which was highly correlated with parasitism) was
181 the key factor explaining variation in host densities. Including pseudoparasitism as the
182 proximate cause of reduced host fertility in the model resolved this issue, with the assumption
183 that 75% of all parasitoid attacks resulted in pseudoparasitism giving the best model fit
184 (explaining 70-80% of the variation in host densities).

185

186 **2.3 Immune defense costs and aborted parasitism**

187 Parasitoids frequently lay their eggs in hosts that do not support the development of their
188 offspring (Abram et al., 2016; Blumberg 1997; Kraaijeveld and Godfray, 1997; Heimpel et
189 al. 2003; Desneux et al. 2009; Condon et al. 2014). Mortality of parasitoid offspring can
190 occur at any time during parasitoid development and can have a variety of consequences for
191 the host (Fig. 2). We designate two terms for non-reproductive effects caused by parasitoid
192 oviposition followed by unsuccessful offspring development, depending on whether the
193 negative effects for hosts are mediated by the host's immune system ("immune defense
194 costs") or the immature parasitoid prior to its death ("aborted parasitism"). We recognize that
195 these two terms do not necessarily describe mutually exclusive processes because immune
196 responses may sometimes be involved in aborted parasitism.

197 Immune defense costs are observed in host individuals surviving parasitism, and
198 result from the physiological cost of mounting an immune defense against the immature

199 parasitoid (e.g., Kraaijeveld and Godfray 1997). For example, mounting an immune defense
200 can negatively impact the body size, survival, offspring viability, fecundity, mating capacity,
201 and competitive ability of surviving hosts (Kraaijeveld and Godfray, 1997; Fellowes *et al.*
202 1998; Fellowes *et al.* 1999; Carton and David 1983; Hoang *et al.* 2001; Niogret *et al.* 2009;
203 Lynch *et al.* 2016). For host life stages with immune responses, the immune system is
204 activated when female parasitoids insert their ovipositors into hosts (Rivers *et al.* 2002), with
205 the aim of inhibiting or preventing the development of immature parasitoids. Encapsulation is
206 the most common defense mechanism mounted by host immune system in response to
207 parasitoid eggs, and it can have a variety of consequences for the host (Salt 1968; Strand,
208 1986; Strand and Pech 1995; Blumberg 1997). In some cases, parasitoid eggs are eliminated
209 with minimal negative fitness consequences (e.g., Hoogendoorn and Heimpel, 2002). In more
210 severe cases, the immune response has negative impacts on surviving host fitness (see
211 above), or the immune system is exhausted and the host becomes more vulnerable to
212 subsequent parasitoid attacks (Blumberg 1997; Tena *et al.*, 2008). For example, when the
213 host immune system is exhausted as the result of a first parasitism event that results in
214 encapsulation, subsequent parasitism attempts (self- or conspecific-superparasitism, or
215 multiparasitism) are more likely to result in successful parasitoid offspring development to
216 adulthood (Blumberg and Goldenberg 1992; Guzo and Stoltz 1985; Ode and Rosenheim
217 1998; Tena *et al.*, 2008). All studies describing host immune system exhaustion are based on
218 laboratory assays to date; thus, its incidence in the field remains unknown. This non-
219 reproductive effect would likely be common under conditions of high parasitism levels in the
220 field (when super- and multi-parasitism are more likely), when as well as under mass rearing
221 conditions or in laboratory colonies.

222 Aborted parasitism occurs when developing parasitoids die for reasons other than the
223 activation of the host immune system, and their host also dies due to actions of the immature
224 parasitoid prior to its own death. For example, Garipey *et al.* (2008) observed that 30-60% of
225 *Peristenus* spp. offspring developing in plant bugs (Hemiptera: Miridae) advanced to the
226 pupal stage, killing the host, but failed to emerge as adult wasps. Depending on the host-
227 parasitoid association, reasons for host death during aborted parasitism may include some
228 combination of immature parasitoid feeding or the release of chemical compounds or
229 teratocytes. The immature parasitoid may die due to poor host nutritional suitability, adverse
230 environmental conditions, or competition. However, the exact mechanism by which the
231 immature parasitoid causes host death is usually unclear. Quantifying the mortality caused by
232 parasitism abortion can be relatively easy when parasitoids die late in their development

233 because they can be observed directly (Tena et al. 2012) or by performing host dissections
234 (Gariepy et al. 2008; Abram et al. 2016). Aborted parasitoid eggs are often more challenging
235 to detect; however, levels of aborted parasitism can still be estimated by comparing host
236 mortality in the presence and absence of parasitoids (e.g., Abram et al. 2016). Aborted
237 parasitism can represent the main cause of host mortality in many host-parasitoid associations
238 (Desneux et al., 2009; Abram et al., 2016). However, as with other non-reproductive effects,
239 aborted parasitism is not always distinguished from other causes of mortality (e.g., Minot and
240 Leonard 1976; Godwin and Odell 1984; Scholler et al. 1996; Huang et al. 2017).

241 **3. OCCURRENCE, CONDITION-DEPENDENCE, AND COSTS**

242 **3.1 Occurrence across taxa, host stages, and life history characteristics**

243 Non-reproductive effects of parasitoids on their hosts appear to be general phenomena
244 distributed across diverse host and parasitoid taxa with varying life histories, acting on a
245 variety of host life stages. Significant non-reproductive effects have been observed in
246 holometabolous (Lepidoptera, Coleoptera, Diptera) and heterometabolous host taxa
247 (Hemiptera) acting on host eggs (e.g., Abram et al. 2016; Lashomb et al. 1987), nymphs
248 (Flanders 1953; Tena et al., 2008; Desneux et al. 2009; Ingerslew and Finke 2016; Cebolla et
249 al. 2018), larvae (Campbell 1963; Rahman 1970; Carton et al. 1983; Münster-Swendsen
250 1994; Liu et al. 2015), pupae (Pimentel et al. 1978; Legner 1979; Geden et al. 2006, Geden
251 and Moon 2009), and adults (Fusco and Hower 1974; Barratt et al. 1996; Goldson et al. 2004;
252 Deas and Hunter 2011, 2013). Some qualitative trends and delimitations are notable:

- 253 (i) Non-consumptive effects have been observed in mobile life stages of hosts
254 (nymphs, larvae, adults) whose behavior can be altered by the presence of
255 parasitoids (Tamaki et al. 1970; Sloggett and Weisser 2002; Fill et al. 2012; Deas
256 and Hunter 2011, 2013; Ingerslew and Finke 2016); however, immobile host life
257 stages may also be able to detect parasitoid presence and alter defensive
258 morphology or physiology.
- 259 (ii) Unequivocal pseudoparasitism has been observed only in koinobiont larval, egg-
260 larval, or adult endoparasitoids (which often inject venom or other regulatory
261 substances but keep their hosts alive) (Brown and Kainoh 1992; Jones et al.
262 1986b; Münster-Swendsen et al. 2002; Vereijssen et al. 2011). Permanent
263 paralysis is mostly induced by idiobiont ectoparasitoid of lepidopteran larvae
264 (Coudron et al. 1990; Casas, 1989; Charles et al. 2013).

- 265 (iii) Immune defense costs should be unique to endoparasitoids of insect life stages
266 with encapsulation or other, similar immune defenses; for example, in dipteran
267 pupae and larvae, hemipteran nymphs, and lepidopteran larvae (Pimentel et al.
268 1978; Kraaijeveld and Godfray 1997; Hoang et al. 2001; Tena et al., 2008;
269 Niogret et al. 2009).
- 270 (iv) Aborted parasitism appears to be the most widespread non-reproductive effect
271 type, occurring any time there is unsuccessful parasitoid development that causes
272 death of any host life stage, in both endoparasitoids (Gariepy et al. 2008; Tena et
273 al. 2012) and ectoparasitoids (Pawson and Peterson 1988; Kapranas et al. 2016),
274 and koinobiont (Ryan 1985; Desneux et al. 2009) as well as idiobiont (Duan et al.
275 2014; Abram et al. 2016) parasitoid species.

276 These general observations should be considered preliminary, however, as studies of non-
277 reproductive effects have been focused on a restricted set of host-parasitoid study systems.
278 More taxonomically widespread studies that make use of the unified terminology proposed
279 herein, and take the possibility of non-reproductive effects into account – even in associations
280 where they are less prevalent – would help to identify more systematic, quantitative patterns
281 in the future.

282

283 **3.2 Condition-dependence**

284 Broadly, the incidence and magnitude of non-reproductive effects are influenced by similar
285 factors as reproductive effects (parasitism). These factors include host characteristics (e.g.,
286 species, age), parasitoid characteristics (species, strain, nutritional regime), ecological
287 variables (exposure time or number of attacks, ratios of hosts to parasitoids, presence of
288 mutualist species), environmental factors (temperature), and more applied considerations
289 (number of generations a parasitoid has been in culture, different shipments from commercial
290 supplier) (Table 1). However, the relative impacts of a given factor on reproductive versus
291 non-reproductive effects may differ, or even have different tendencies. For example,
292 *Bactrocera curcurbitae* (Diptera: Tephritidae) pupal mortality from mutilation and/or
293 pseudoparasitism by *Spalangia endius* (Hymenoptera: Pteromalidae) decreases with host age,
294 whereas successful parasitism is highest at intermediate host age (Tang et al. 2015). This
295 negative relationship between host age and mortality from mutilation/pseudoparasitism
296 appears to be a general trend (Table 1). Martinez-Ferrer et al. (2003) found that the presence
297 of host-attending ants reduced the negative effects of probing-induced mutilation of
298 *Aonidiella aurantii* (Hemiptera: Diaspididae) by *Aphytis melinus* (Hymenoptera:

299 Aphelinidae); however, the reduction in probing was less than the reduction of reproductive
300 parasitism, possibly because parasitism takes longer and is more likely to be interrupted by
301 ants.

302

303 **3.3 Costs and benefits for parasitoids**

304 By definition, non-reproductive effects do not result in the production of parasitoid offspring
305 (i.e., fitness gain). Thus, from the point of view of the parasitoid, non-reproductive effects
306 can mostly be considered as costly constraints, or inefficiencies, arising from the need to
307 search for hosts and overcome their structural, behavioral, and physiological defenses in the
308 face of varying levels of host availability, host quality, competition, and environmental stress.
309 Depending on the host-parasitoid system, the outcome, and the mechanism underlying the
310 non-reproductive effect – that is, how far along in the host exploitation sequence the
311 mechanism sits (Fig. 2) – these costs could range from minimal to relatively severe for
312 parasitoids. For example, normal parasitoid foraging behaviors that mediate some non-
313 consumptive effects (e.g., antennation; Ingerslew and Finke 2016) would not incur any
314 particular cost to the parasitoid, but probing and drilling behaviors that can cause host
315 mutilation can be extremely costly in time (Beltra et al. 2015) and metabolic energy
316 (Boisseau et al. 2017). Although we are unaware of any direct investigations into the cost of
317 host regulatory chemical substances (e.g., venom) in parasitoids, it is plausible that there is a
318 cost to their production and wasteful use during pseudoparasitism (Casewell et al. 2013;
319 Kapranas et al. 2012). Reduction in host availability for parasitism and host-feeding would be
320 a cost shared by all forms of non-reproductive effects. For example, non-consumptive effects
321 can result in host dispersal from the local patch (e.g. crawling away, dropping) (Fill et al.
322 2012), and reduced host reproduction (Deas and Hunter 2011). Mutilation, pseudoparasitism,
323 and aborted parasitism, by killing hosts or lowering their quality, directly reduce the
324 proportion of suitable hosts in a given environment (Islam et al. 1997). Finally, the non-
325 reproductive effects of costly host immune defense and aborted parasitism involve a cost for
326 the parasitoid of laying eggs that do not result in offspring production. The fitness cost for the
327 parasitoid of wasted eggs would be more severe if the parasitoid routinely experiences egg
328 limitation (as opposed to time limitation) in a particular environment (Rosenheim 1999).

329 While most instances of non-reproductive effects of parasitoids on their hosts are
330 certainly costly for parasitoids, a few studies have proposed potential fitness benefits. For
331 example, in some cases, not using a given host for offspring production (while incidentally
332 having non-reproductive effects on the host) may be adaptive; for example, when a parasitoid

333 mutilates a host while probing but determines that it is low-quality or unsuitable for
334 parasitism (Desneux et al. 2009). In another relatively well-known example, parasitoids can
335 exhaust the immune defense system of hosts that otherwise would be unsuitable by
336 superparasitizing them (van Alphen and Visser 1990; Tena et al. 2008). Patel et al. (2003)
337 proposed that host-killing (mutilation/pseudoparasitism) of *Liriomyza trifolii* (Diptera:
338 Agromyzidae) larvae by *Diglyphus intermedius* (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) could be an
339 adaptive strategy by the parasitoid to prevent excessive leafmining by other unparasitized
340 larvae on the same leaflet, which can cause desiccation, necrosis, and abscission, and thus
341 reduce the chance of parasitoid offspring survival. In addition, killing unparasitized hosts
342 may also increase the amount of resources available to parasitized hosts that continue to feed.
343 Similarly, Vereijssen et al. (2011) argued that once a parasitoid has parasitized a host in a
344 given patch, destroying other hosts in the patch could increase fitness (representation of her
345 genome in the next generation) by reducing host availability for other parasitoid individuals.
346 Pseudoparasitism could be beneficial for parasitoids at the population level if it lengthens the
347 suitable stage of hosts by changing the concentration of juvenile hormone (Jones 1986),
348 making them susceptible to parasitism for longer periods. Further theoretical work, including
349 modeling, and experimental studies are needed to directly demonstrate an adaptive value for
350 parasitoids of inducing non-reproductive effects on hosts.

351 **4. ECOLOGICAL AND EVOLUTIONARY IMPLICATIONS OF NON-** 352 **REPRODUCTIVE EFFECTS**

353 While non-reproductive effects result from aspects of parasitoid behavior and physiology that
354 generally serve adaptive functions (host location, host feeding, host exploitation), the
355 resulting effects themselves cannot be considered as adaptive strategies evolved by
356 parasitoids to either exploit their hosts or expand their host range. However, from an
357 evolutionary perspective, non-reproductive parasitism events could theoretically create
358 favourable conditions for the establishment of new, viable host-parasitoid associations.
359 Opportunities may occur for parasitoids to expand their host range following encounters with
360 a potential new host species, as long as parasitoids possess pre-adaptations for location,
361 development and reproduction on the novel host (Price 1980, Poulin 2011). These conditions
362 may exist when an invasive species possessing similar ecological and physiological attributes
363 to 'traditional' hosts becomes abundant in the environment. At first, maladaptive oviposition
364 decisions by parasitoids causing non-reproductive effects could intensify (Heimpel et al.
365 2003), leading to an evolutionary trap for indigenous parasitoids (Schlaepfer et al. 2005;

366 Abram et al. 2014). For example, Abram et al. (2014) showed that the indigenous generalist
367 egg parasitoid *Telenomus podisi* Ashmead (Hymenoptera: Scelionidae) accepts eggs of the
368 newly invasive alien stink bug *Halyomorpha halys* (Stål) (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae) at high
369 rates and causes some host eggs to abort development, but their offspring cannot successfully
370 develop. In this association, parasitoid females not wasting time and eggs in *H. halys* should
371 pass more copies of their genes to the next generation, thereby relaxing the frequency of non-
372 reproductive effects on the host. On a microevolutionary time scale, however, behavioural
373 mechanisms could evolve to minimize oviposition mistakes, and/or physiological attributes
374 could be selected for that would improve the success of offspring development following
375 these mistakes. Non-reproductive effects that formerly only killed the host (e.g., aborted
376 parasitism) could pave the way for mutants in the parasitoid population whose offspring can
377 occasionally undergo successful development in the invasive species. Thus, oviposition
378 events that were formerly highly maladaptive would result in some offspring production,
379 gradually relaxing selective pressure to avoid laying eggs in the invasive host. Ultimately,
380 such a process could, in theory, lead to speciation in populations of parasitoids gaining the
381 capacity to successfully attack novel hosts (Stireman et al. 2006). The role of non-
382 reproductive events in shaping parasitoid host range would be determined by ecological and
383 physiological pre-adaptations to host exploitation, frequency of encounters with potential
384 new hosts, the amount of genetic variation in relevant physiological and behavioural traits,
385 and subsequent fitness benefits.

386 There is currently little empirical evidence concerning the quantitative impacts of non-
387 reproductive effects of parasitoids on host-parasitoid interactions at population and
388 community scales (but see Munster-Swendsen 1994; Munster-Swendsen 2002). However, a
389 theoretical framework, mostly through modeling, is currently being developed and will help
390 to acknowledge the relative importance played by non-reproductive parasitoid mortality in
391 mediating direct and indirect effects at the ecosystem level (Abram et al. 2016; Kaser et al.
392 2018). Abram et al. (2016) first developed a heuristic population dynamic model of egg-
393 limited parasitoids inducing aborted parasitism on host eggs. They concluded that abortion
394 negatively impacts population growth of the host (and to a lesser extent, the parasitoid), and
395 that the consequences for parasitoids are worst when parasitoid females are egg-limited.
396 Kaser et al. (2018) investigated the population-level consequences of non-reproductive
397 effects of parasitoids in the context of novel associations between invasive and native hosts
398 attacked by native or exotic parasitoids. Indirect effects mediated by parasitoids were
399 examined by constructing models examining population-level outcomes of non-reproductive

400 mortality for suitable (co-evolved associations) and unsuitable hosts (novel associations)
401 attacked by either egg-limited or time-limited parasitoids. From model outputs, they
402 concluded that non-reproductive parasitoid induced host mortality would influence indirect
403 interactions in varying and often complex ways including apparent competition, apparent
404 parasitism, apparent amensalism and apparent commensalism, depending on the mechanism
405 of aborted parasitism and the degree of parasitoid egg limitation.

406 Parasitoids are ubiquitous in terrestrial ecosystems and parasitism can exert a significant
407 influence on food webs (Hawkins 1994; Quicke 2015). However, to our knowledge, there is
408 no evidence concerning the contribution of non-reproductive effects to the structure and
409 stability of ecological communities. Investigating the functional role played by this largely
410 ‘hidden dimension’ (*sensu* Condon et al. 2014) represents a new challenge for population
411 ecologists. Broadening current host-parasitoid population and community models by adding
412 the non-reproductive dimension could lead to a more comprehensive appreciation of the true
413 range of interactions that determine community structure and function, and help to
414 understand the potential of these effects to cascade through food chains and influence
415 ecosystem services such as biological control (see section 5).

416 **5. IMPLICATIONS FOR BIOLOGICAL CONTROL OF INSECT PESTS**

417 Over the past several decades, a number of researchers have argued that only measuring host
418 death from host feeding or resulting in parasitoid offspring emergence underestimates
419 biological control impact of parasitoids (e.g., Campbell 1963; Legner 1979; Van Driesche
420 1983; Neuenschwander and Madojemu 1986; Munster-Swendsen 1994; Abram et al. 2016;
421 Cebolla et al. 2018). Our integrative review of a large body of literature further emphasizes
422 this point, showing that non-reproductive effects are widespread, diverse, condition-
423 dependent (Table 1), and often comprise a large component of the impact of parasitoids on
424 host populations. Thus, it is critical for biological control researchers to measure these effects
425 in order to fully appreciate the magnitude of ecosystem services provided by these important
426 natural enemies. However, the significance of non-reproductive effects for the applied aims
427 of biological control programs depends on the approach (see also Abram et al. 2016); for
428 example:

429 **Inundative/Augmentative biological control:** Inundative releases of parasitoids
430 aiming for short-term pest control can be successful even if most of the mortality caused to
431 hosts is the result of non-reproductive effects (Huang et al. 2017). In mass-rearing systems

432 for inundative and augmentative biological control programs, non-reproductive effects can be
433 ambiguous: on one hand, host immune system exhaustion due to superparasitism can allow
434 the use of host material for rearing that would otherwise be unsuitable (Tena et al. 2008); on
435 the other hand, they can lead to wasted or low-quality host material (e.g., dead or low-quality
436 hosts that yield poor-quality parasitoids or no parasitoids at all).

437 **Conservation biological control:** In our literature search, we did not find any case
438 where non-reproductive effects of parasitoids were explicitly considered as part of
439 conservation biological control programs (i.e., habitat management to provide nectar, shelter,
440 alternative hosts, etc.; see Begg et al. 2017). However, conservation biological control
441 strategies that provide alternative hosts to parasitoids (e.g., Bernal et al., 2001; Kapranas
442 2007) could also consider conserving parasitoids that cause non-reproductive effects on the
443 target host.

444 **Classical biological control:** Ecological risk assessments for the introduction of
445 parasitoids include estimating risk of candidate parasitoids to non-target host species in the
446 proposed area of introduction. It is generally assumed that if a given host species is attacked
447 by a candidate parasitoid (i.e., the parasitoid lays eggs in them) but is of low suitability for
448 the immature parasitoid development, then this host is not under any real threat because it
449 will be unable to support parasitoid populations (Heimpel and Mills 2017). This assumption
450 may not be valid if the severity of non-reproductive effects are large, and the suitable target
451 species that would support parasitoid populations often co-occurs (e.g., on the same host
452 plant in the same habitat) with the unsuitable non-target species (see Condon et al. 2014).
453 When non-target impact as a result of non-reproductive effects of parasitoids could
454 potentially be severe and sustained, we suggest that these effects should be included as
455 additional parameters used in non-target host range evaluation.

456 To support a better understanding of the contribution of non-reproductive effects to
457 the various types of biological pest control, we advocate for standardized measurement,
458 calculation, and reporting. For example, non-reproductive effects should be: (i) reported with
459 clear terminology along with known or hypothetical mechanisms and outcomes, according to
460 our framework; (ii) reported separately from reproductive effects; (iii) reported as a
461 percentage of the total number of hosts exposed to parasitism, and, when behavioral
462 observations are available, the percentage of hosts attacked by the parasitoid; (iv) measured
463 in assessments of parasitoid impact under various conditions by including unexposed controls
464 in the experimental design to allow correction of mortality rates of exposed individuals (i.e.
465 with Abbott's formula; see Abram et al. 2016); (v) estimated in the field by applying

466 corrections derived from laboratory studies, when direct measurement in the field is not
467 feasible (e.g. Van Driesche et al. 1987; Van Driesche et al. 1990). Sub-lethal non-
468 reproductive effects (e.g., reduction of host fecundity or longevity) could similarly be
469 included in estimates of population-level impacts of parasitoids following calculations used
470 to account for sub-lethal effects of pesticides (Sterk et al., 1999). Efforts should also be made
471 to validate the accuracy of lab estimates in predicting field estimates of non-reproductive
472 effects. Use of molecular diagnostic tools to assess levels of unsuccessful parasitoid attack
473 could prove very useful in this regard (Garipey et al. 2014; Condon et al. 2014; Gómez-
474 Marco et al., 2015).

475 **FUTURE ISSUES**

- 476 1. Non-reproductive effects should be included in models of host-parasitoid population
477 dynamics and trophic networks.
- 478 2. Theory and empirical data are needed to determine whether non-reproductive effects
479 could increase parasitoid fitness under some conditions; for example, as a competitive
480 tactic to increase resource availability for parasitized hosts.
- 481 3. The role of community interactions (e.g., interactions with host mutualists, predators,
482 competitors) on the frequency and magnitude of non-reproductive effects should be
483 further examined.
- 484 4. Quantitative and molecular methods should continue to be developed and
485 implemented to evaluate the occurrence of non-reproductive effects in the field, and
486 resulting impact on host populations.
- 487 5. The role of symbiotic and pathogenic microorganisms in non-reproductive effects of
488 insect parasitoids on their hosts should be explored.

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491 The authors are not aware of any affiliations, memberships, funding, or financial holdings
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496 **EARLIER VERSIONS OF THE MANUSCRIPT.**DEFINITIONS

497 **Augmentative biological control:** Intentionally increasing populations of an established
498 biological control agent through the release of additional individuals.

499 **Classical biological control:** The intentional introduction of an exotic biological agent for
500 long-term pest control, involving the agent's permanent establishment of self-sustaining
501 populations.

502 **Conservation biological control:** Manipulative management of habitats that increases
503 population sizes of biological control agents and their impact on pests.

504 **Ectoparasitoid:** Species in which eggs are laid and larvae develop on the exterior of hosts.

505 **Encapsulation:** Cellular immune defense of insects against their parasitoids.

506 **Endoparasitoid:** Species in which egg laying and development occurs within the host.

507 **Idiobiont parasitoids:** Species that prevent further development of their host after
508 oviposition by the maternal parasitoid.

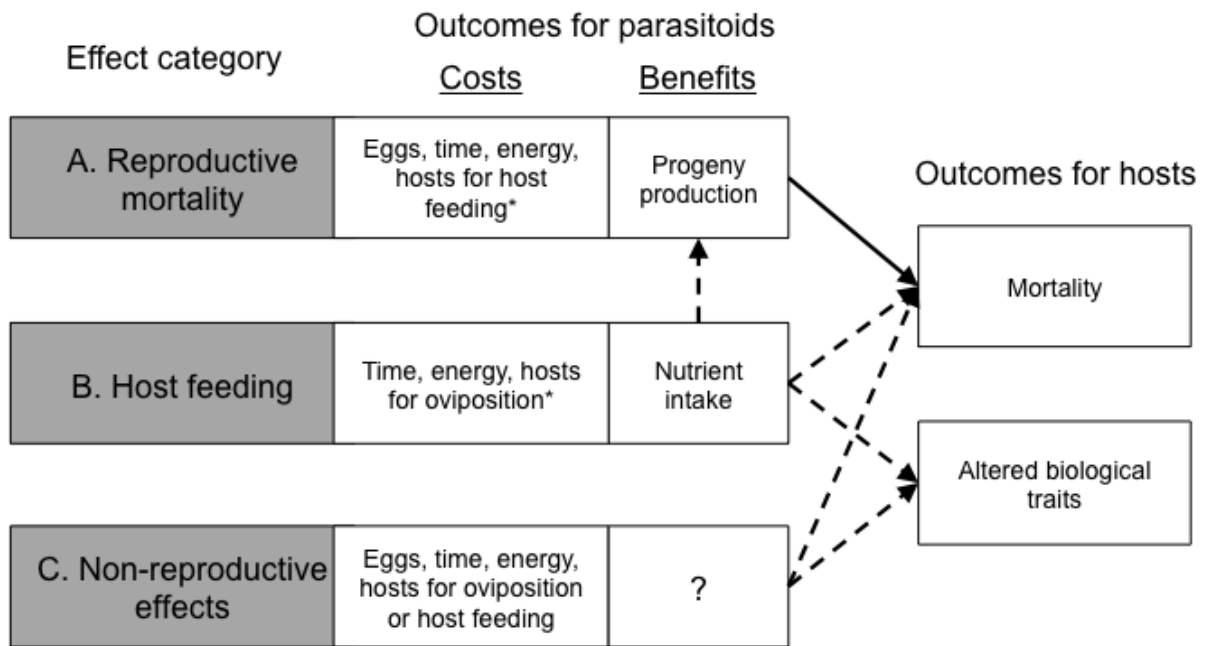
509 **Inundative biological control:** Application of large numbers of a biological agent to
510 immediately reduce a pest population.

511 **Koinobiont parasitoids:** Species whose hosts continue to feed and develop after
512 parasitization, before eventually being killed by the immature parasitoid.

513 **Table 1.** Condition-dependence of non-reproductive effects by effect type. Mutilation,
 514 pseudoparasitism, and aborted parasitism are presented as one category because definitive
 515 categorization of many studies was not possible due to lack of mechanistic understanding.
 516

Effect type(s)	Factor	Relationship to strength of non-reproductive effects [References]
Non-consumptive effects	Host age/stage	positive [1]; negative [2]
	Presence of parasitized hosts	positive [3]
	Presence of female versus male parasitoids	positive [4]
	Extreme high temperatures	positive [5]
	Host plant resistance	positive [6]
	Presence of other host species	positive [7]
Mutilation/ Pseudoparasitism/ Aborted Parasitism*	Host species	varies among species [8–15]
	Host age/stage	positive [16–18]; negative [19–26]; hump-shaped [27,28]; no effect [29,30]
	Smaller host size distribution	positive [31]
	Host rearing substrate	varies among substrates [32,33]
	Parasitoid age	no effect [29]
	Parasitoid species	varies among species [8,12,15,23,34–37]; does not vary among strains [10]
	Parasitoid strain within species	varies among strains [8]; does not vary among strains [12,14]
	Parasitoid individual within species	varies among individuals [8]
	Parasitoid shipment from commercial supplier	varies among shipments [36]
	Number of generations parasitoid in culture	no effect [10]
	Parasitoid heterosis	positive [38]
	Parasitoid nutrition	varies among nutritive regimes [39], no effect [40]
	Parasitoid:host density ratio	positive [15,41–47], hump-shaped [48]
	Exposure time with parasitoid	positive [47]
	Number of parasitoid attacks	positive [33,49–51]
	Order of multiparasitism	varies with species order and combination [52]
	Pre-exposure of parasitoids to host adults	positive [53]
Presence of host-attending ants	negative [37]	
Temperature	positive [17], negative [54], hump-shaped [55,56]	
Immune defense costs	Density of competitors	positive [57,58]
	Increased desiccation risk	positive [59]
	Decreased nutrient availability for host	positive [59]
	Host species	does not vary among host species [58]
	Parasitoid species	varies among species (longevity) [60], does not vary among species (fecundity) [60]

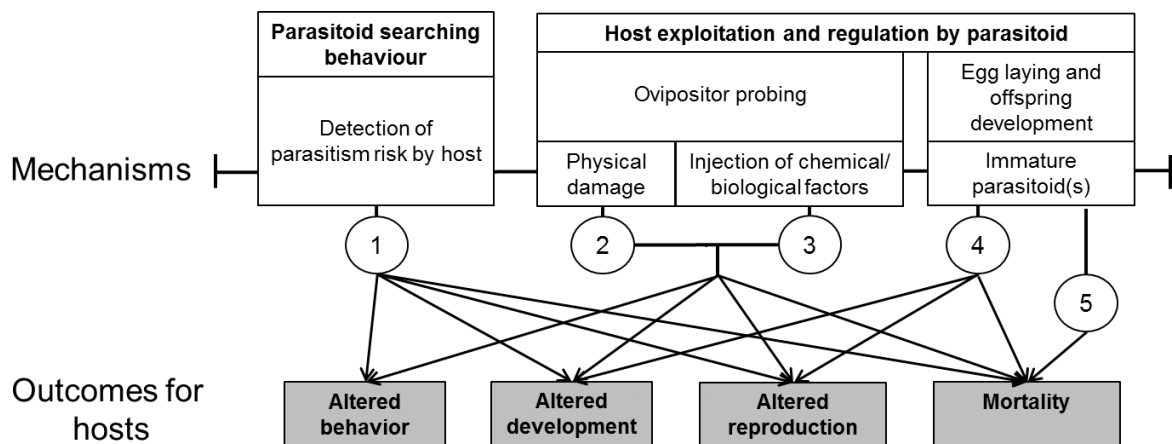
517 *Effects on hosts may include results of host feeding in some studies where mechanisms were not distinguished.
 518
 519



520

521 **Figure 1.** Categories of the three different ways that parasitoids can negatively affect host populations, with the
 522 resulting benefits and costs for parasitoids and outcomes for hosts. Solid arrows show direct relationships;
 523 dashed arrows show indirect or conditional relationships. “Altered biological traits” are listed in Fig. 2.
 524 Asterisks (*) indicate that there is no cost for parasitoid species with concurrent host feeding (i.e., that can use
 525 the same host for progeny production and host feeding).

526



527

528

529 **Figure 2.** Mechanisms and outcomes of non-reproductive effects of parasitoids on their hosts, with suggested
 530 terminology: (1) non-consumptive effects; (2) mutilation; (3) pseudoparasitism; (4) immune defense costs; (5)
 531 aborted parasitism.

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