

## INTERNATIONAL BIOLOGICAL PROGRAMME AND PARASITOLOGY

The International Biological Programme, the important event of the year in biology, has finished preparatory work and will start on the planned studies in July 1967.

The participation of parasitology in this programme is very low, as parasitology for its practical tasks and aspects of work is mostly a basic part of important international research programmes of the WHO, FAO or other organizations. It was the primary decision of the IBP Special committee not to interfere with any programme of this kind.

For this reason parasitological work has been included only in one of the sections. The UM-section (Use and Management of Resources) contains the project Biological control, where parasites and diseases of five major agricultural pests are studied. This study deals with fundamental research on limiting factors of pests in their distribution area, the main topics being the delimitation of models of systems acting in biological control of the pests. Within the 37 countries participating in this programme Czechoslovakia is represented by the following topics:

1. The aphid *Myzus persicae*. The aphid will be studied as a model for a system of biological control of aphids in general:
  - a) Biology, food requirements and impact on development, migration and location on plants. Studied at the Institute of Experimental Phytopathology and Entomology, Ivanka pri Dunaji.
  - b) Relations of predator, parasite and host. Studied at the Institute of Entomology, Acad. Sci., Prague.
  - c) Diseases of aphids, in particular of *Myzus persicae*; distribution, isolation, mass rearing and application of entomophthoraceous fungi. Studied at the Inst. of Entomology, Acad. Sci., Prague.
  - d) Plant viruses and *Myzus persicae*: transmission from ruderal or noncultivated plants to agricultural ones. Institute of Experimental Botany, Acad. Sci., Prague.
2. Rice stem borers. This project is studied in rice growing countries and from Czechoslovakia, a supply of pathogens attacking insects of the same type of occurrence for experimental infections will be procured.
3. Spider mites of the genus *Tetranychus*. In Czechoslovakia diseases of spider mites will be studied, including fungi and viruses. Institute of Entomology, Acad. Sci., Prague.
4. Codling moth and other apple and pear tortricids.
  - a) Distribution of parasites and predators of the codling moth will be studied at the Plant Protection Institute, Prague-Ruzyň.
  - b) Diseases of the codling moth, ecological conditions for their distribution and increase of virulence will be studied at the Institute of Entomology of Acad. Sci., Prague.
5. Fruit flies. The main interest is in *Ceratitis capitata*. In Czechoslovakia an auxiliary project is devoted to studies of the cherry fly, a pest analogous to *Ceratitis capitata*.
  - a) Biology of the cherry fly, ecology, laboratory rearings and
  - b) parasites and predators of the cherry fly; both will be studied at the Institute of Experimental Phytopathology and Entomology, Ivanka pri Dunaji.
  - c) Influence of chemicals on gonade development of *Rhagoletis*. Institute of Entomology, Acad. Sci., Prague.
  - d) Diseases of the cherry fly and their infectivity for *Ceratitis*. Institute of Entomology, Acad. Sci., Prague.

RNDr. J. Weiser, Dr. Sc.