

# **Stimulation of Host Searching Behavior of Parasitoids by Silk-extracts of Indianmeal moth, *Plodia interpunctella***

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This report investigated the stimulation activities of host searching behavior of parasitoids from the silk-extracts of Indianmeal moth, *Plodia interpunctella* Hübner (Lepidoptera:Pyralidae) in the laboratory system. Silk materials were extracted by sonication with hexane and centrifuged at high speed. Silk-extracts attracted larval-parasitoids of both *Venturia canescens* (Ichneumonidae) and *Bracon hebetor* (Braconidae). After application of silk-extracts into the filter paper circles, parasitoids were attracted with different behavioral responses at various concentrations. The retention time of both *V. canescens* and *B. hebetor* in the treated papers increased significantly as compared with the control (solvent only). *V. canescens* retained in the papers with both strong antennation and frequent ovipositing behaviors at dose of 100  $\mu\text{g}$ . Also *B. hebetor* exhibited arrestment, antennation and probing behaviors in the papers at dose of 10  $\mu\text{g}$ . This silk-extract from the larvae of Indianmeal moth offered a potentially effective tool for the biological control by parasitoids.