

Contracted Research

Curation and Archiving of Biological Control Research Vouchers and Development of Identification Expertise

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Additions of specimens to the voucher database during 1996 were from CDFA Project 6, The Biological Control of Yellow Starthistle, *Centaurea solstitialis*, and CDFA Project 9, The Biocontrol of *Bemisia argentifolii*. A total of 413 specimens in 9 taxa were mounted, identified, and added to the voucher collection. Further identifications were made on some specimens from earlier lots. The bethylid wasp that was collected from Italian thistle heads in CDFA Project 12, Italian Thistle Biocontrol and yellow starthistle seedheads in CDFA Project 6 were both identified as specimens of *Plastonoxus incompletus* Evans. This species was previously recorded from anobiids in composite seedheads. The eulophid from CDFA Project 6, Lot Number 95061 was identified as *Pronotalia carlinarum* Szelenyi and Erdos. *Pronotalia carlinarum* is known from Tephritidae in flowerheads of *Cirsium* and *Centaurea* spp. in Europe, where it was first described. A paper describing a new species of *Stenoselma* is being prepared. This new species is apparently a parasite of *Urophora sirunaseva*, a gall fly that attacks the seedheads of yellow starthistle.

In: Bezark, L.G. (Editor). 1997. *Biological Control Program Annual Summary, 1996*. California Department of Food and Agriculture. Division of Plant Industry, Sacramento, California.