

**ECOLOGICAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE DATE PALM
PARLATORIA SCALE, *PARLATORIA BLANCHARDII* (TARG -
TOZZ.) (HOMOPTERA DIASPIDIDAE)**

IN NORTH SINAI, EGYPT

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The date palm Parlatoria scale, *Palatoria blanchardii* is a key pest on date palms in Egypt. Ecological observations at El-Dahia locality, Al-Arish region, north Sinai from Mar. 1, 1994 until Feb. 29, 1996 indicated the following: a) Follow up of the population fluctuations of the pre-adult and female adult stages under field conditions revealed four successive annual generations. b) Generation duration ranged 13-22 weeks with peaks in May, mid-Jul., mid-Sep. and mid-Nov. to early Dec. c) Basal third of leaflets received the highest infestation (45.6-46.7%) and apical third received the least infestation (20.3-20.8%). Infestation on the middle third of leaflet was intermediate (33.0-33.6). d) The pest preferred to accumulate at the southeastern sides of the palm. e) An unidentified Hymenopterous parasite (*Aphytis sp.*) parasitized upon 18.5 - 46.8% of the nymphal and adult populations.