

Somsak Sangprajan 2014: Distribution, Biology and Ecology of household casebearer

Phereoeca uterella (Walsingham) (Lepidoptera: Tineidae) in Thailand.

Master of Science (Entomology), Major Field: Entomology, Department of Entomology.

Thesis Advisor: Assistant Professor Anchana Thancharoen, Ph.D. 115 pages.

The household casebearer is a micro moth species that its larval stages stay in flat fusiform case constructed from dust or fine sand. The larvae are commonly found on floor, wall and ceiling of houses in Thailand. They are household insects that are closely related to human life. Recently in Thailand, the numbers of wall bagworm trend to increase while the knowledge of them are lacking. The objectives of this research were to study on species identification, distribution, biology and some ecological aspect of household casebearer. Based on external and characteristic of genitalia structure, the observed household casebearers in Bangkok and boundary area is *Phereoeca uterella* classified in a *Phereoeca* genus, family of Tineidae. The household casebearers were found all over Thailand (55 provinces and 164 districts). Life cycle of household casebearer can be divided into 4 stages; egg, larva, pupa, and adult stage. Developmental time of each stage was determined to be 8.6, 31.2, 11.8, and 9.1 days in a stage of egg, larva, pupa, and adult, respectively. Household casebearer has a laying egg rate of 91.02 ± 20.86 eggs with hatching rate of 70.94 %. From ecological study, average number of household casebearer was significantly higher observed in a restroom compared with living room in house area, while no significant difference of the distribution noticed for dormitory area. Furthermore, rearing technique of household casebearer is provided.

Student's signature

Thesis Advisor's signature

____ / ____ / ____