

## Is the Parasitoid *Perilitus areolaris* a Significant Mortality Factor for Adult Pine Weevils?

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**Abstract** *Perilitus areolaris* (Braconidae) parasitizes adult pine weevils (*Hylobius abietis*; Curculionidae). Little is known about the biology of this parasitoid and how it affects the population dynamics of the pine weevil. We collected several thousand pine weevils from spring to autumn over 3 years at 6 clear-cuttings in the southern part of Sweden. The weevils were dissected and we recorded the reproductive phase, the presence/absence of flight muscles and the presence/absence of parasitoid eggs and larvae. Preliminary analyses of the data showed that about 20% of the pre-reproductive, young weevils were parasitized at the weevil regeneration sites (1 and 2 year-old clear-cuttings). We concluded that *P. areolaris* is a significant mortality factor that decreases the production of weevils at the study sites.