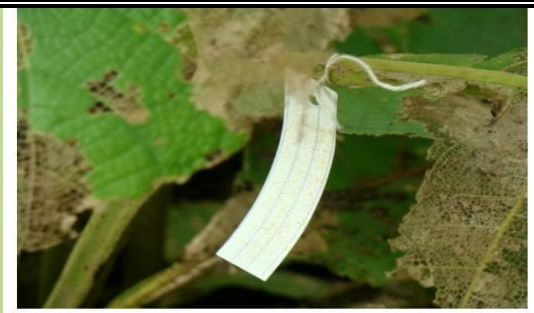
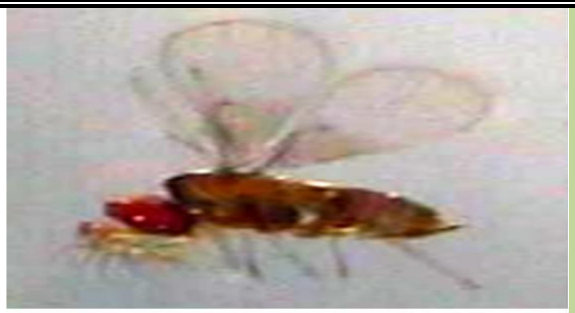
TFRI Tricho cards

Fresh eggs of rice moth, *Corcyra cephalonica* (Stainton) (Lepidptera : Pyralidae) were pasted on paper cards and hanged in teak forests for 2-3 days during last week of June in Udaipur (compartment No. 298 RF), Kalpi Forest Range, Mandla Forest Division, MP. These eggs were found parasitized by egg parasitoid occurring in teak forest. The parasitized eggs were collected and transferred in polythene bags for emergence of wasps. The wasps were studied morphologically and identified as *Trichogramma raoi* Nagaraja with the help of available literature on Trichogrammatids taxonomy. They were exposed to the fresh eggs of rice moth, *C. cephaloinica* pasted on paper cards at a constant temperature of 27 ± 1^0C and RH 65-70% in insectary. The wasps oviposit their eggs by inserting the host eggs. The eggs hatched to larvae of parasitoid inside the host eggs in the next day. The larvae of parasitoid feed on the egg content of the host and ultimately turn brownish to blackish pupae inside the eggs on the third day. These eggs, bearing pupae of wasp or parasitoid inside are stored at 4^0C in refrigerator for a maximum of a month to inhibit the emergence of parasitoid wasps and ready for field release as TFRI Tricho cards (each card containing 25,000 parasitod) to control teak pests.

The stored parasitoids, *T raoi* (TFRI Tricho cards containing 25000 parasitoid covered by polythene bags) were removed from refrigerator and kept at normal room temperature for two days before to date of release to field. When the wasps begin to emerge inside polythene bags, they were introduced in teak forests either early in the morning or at the afternoon to evening. TFRI Tricho cards were faced downward either in between bushes or on standing trees to prevent them from direct hit or the rain. The wasps of egg parasitoid (TFRI Tricho card) needs to be released in five installments @ 1.25 lakh/ha during the population outbreak (July-September) of target insect pests. The observation on defoliation and skeletonization needs to be recorded during the month of August and October respectively to find out the potential of biocontrol agent, *T. raoi*.





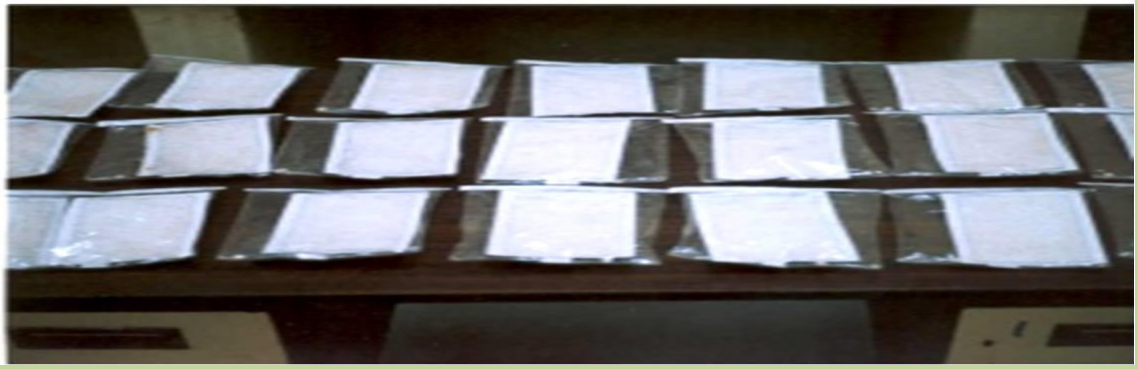


Fig- Egg strip for collection of T.rooi

Native egg parasitoid T.rooi

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