

# Host range, distribution, and natural enemies of *Bemisia tabaci* ‘B biotype’ (Hemiptera: Aleyrodidae) in Turkey

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**Abstract** The whitefly *Bemisia tabaci* (Gennadius) has caused notable damage to vegetable and cotton crops in the eastern Mediterranean region since about 1994, and has become particularly problematic in southern Turkey beginning in 2000. The development of squash silverleaf symptoms in *Cucurbita* species and the unprecedented high population levels in the region suggested that the B biotype, notable for the latter phenotypes, had been introduced. To test this hypothesis and determine the host distribution of the suspect introduced B biotype and its associated natural enemies, *B. tabaci* immature instars and adults, and the associated natural enemies were collected from cultivated and uncultivated plant species. From the southern Turkey collections, *B. tabaci* was found to colonize 152 species from 43 plant families. Of the plant species upon which *B. tabaci* was found to reproduce, 152 of them were reported as hosts of *B. tabaci* in Turkey. Five species of predators and two species of parasitoids were identified as natural enemies of the B biotype of *B. tabaci* in southern Turkey. Using the mitochondrial cytochrome oxidase I gene all *B. tabaci* were identified as the B biotype of the *B. tabaci* complex, at 96–100%

shared identity with reference B biotype sequences. Results indicate that this invasive biotype has displaced the local Turkey-cotton haplotype that was known to occur previously in southern Turkey.

**Keywords** Hemiptera · Mitochondria cytochrome oxidase I gene · Parasitoids · Squash silverleaf symptoms · Whitefly

## Introduction

*Bemisia tabaci* (Gennadius) has been known to cause economic losses in cotton and vegetable crops in southern Turkey since 1966 (Kaygısız 1976; Ulusoy 2001). This whitefly species has become an increasingly important pest and vector of plant viruses in agricultural crops in tropical and subtropical regions throughout the world (Avidov and Harpaz 1969; Mound and Halsey 1978; Costa and Brown 1991; Costa et al. 1993; Gill 1992; Cock 1993; Brown 1994, 2000, 2001). The B biotype was first described in the southwestern U.S.A. from poinsettia (Costa and Brown 1991). It is considered a distinct biological type based on its unusually broad host range, high reproductive success, and ability to induce a silvering phenotype in leaves of colonized *Cucurbita* species (Costa and Brown 1991) and irregular ripening in tomato fruits (Schuster et al. 1990), both which are reminiscent of phytotoxic disorders. The further ability of the B biotype develop insecticide resistance to certain commonly used compounds, has made it particularly difficult to control, and enabled its rapid spread throughout the Americas (Costa et al. 1993; Brown et al. 1995; Kirk et al. 2000; Viscarret et al. 2003), Europe, Asia, and to Australia (Brown 2000).

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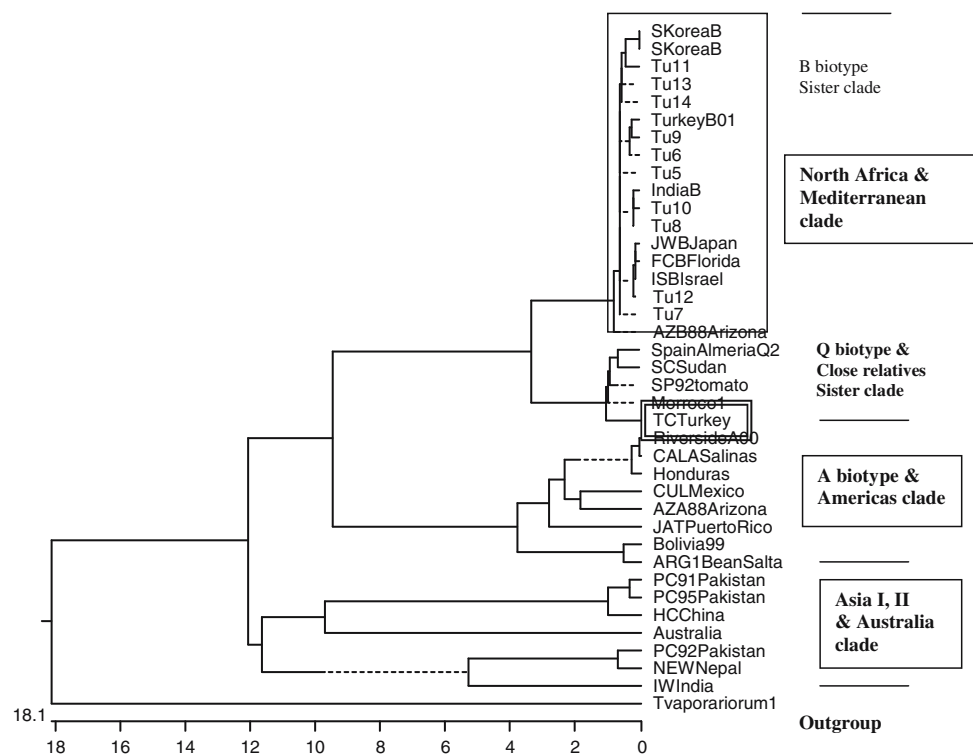
Biological variants of *B. tabaci* cannot be distinguished using traditional taxonomic methods because they do not have distinguishing morphological characters (Mound and Halsey 1978; Gill 1992; Rosell et al. 1997). A distinctive esterase profile for the ‘A biotype’ indigenous to the Southwestern U.S.A., when compared to that for the invasive ‘B’ biotype provided the first evidence that the two variants were polymorphic (Costa and Brown 1991). The unique ability of the ‘B’ biotype to cause silvering in *Cucurbita* spp. has provided a reliable phenotype by which the ‘B’ biotype (and its closest relatives) can be distinguished from all New World *B. tabaci*, and most other Old World *B. tabaci*, because other bio/haplotypes do not express this phenotype (Costa et al. 1993; Bedford et al. 1994; Brown et al. 1995; Brown 2000).

A number of studies have revealed unexpected variation within *B. tabaci* (Costa et al. 1993; Brown et al. 1995, 2000; see refs in Brown 2001), leading to the proposal that *B. tabaci* is a sibling species complex (Brown et al. 1995). This has since spurred a great interest in the ecology, diversity, population genetics, and evolutionary history of the *B. tabaci* complex. Molecular markers, including the mitochondria (mt) 16S rRNA and mt cytochrome oxidase I (mtCOI) genes (Brown et al. 1995; Frohlich et al. 1999; Kirk et al. 2000; Viscarret et al. 2003), and the ITS1 (nuclear, non-coding) sequence (De Barro et al. 2000) have been used to document extensive genetic polymorphisms within the

*B. tabaci* complex, worldwide. Analysis of the mtCOI for geographically representative *B. tabaci* has revealed that the mtCOI sequence is informative and predictive of extant phylogeographical relationships for the *B. tabaci* complex (Frohlich et al. 1999; Brown 2000; Brown and Idris 2005; Kirk et al. 2000; Viscarret et al. 2003).

Molecular genetic (RAPDs) analysis of *B. tabaci* in Spain revealed that at least two indigenous *B. tabaci* haplotypes occur there. The S type is restricted to the Convolvulaceae, and the Q haplotype (Guirao et al. 1997), which is a member of a sister subclade to the B biotype, has a broad host range that also includes the Convolvulaceae. The Q biotype is a polyphagous biotype from the Mediterranean/North African region and was shown to occur sympatrically with the ‘B’ biotype in Spain in about 1994. This result has been corroborated by mtCOI data (Frohlich et al. 1999; Brown 2000), which suggests that the B biotype is not indigenous to Spain, and that it was recently introduced there from the Middle East/Africa, and further that the Q population is native to the Mediterranean region (Brown 2000; Brown and Idris 2005). The B biotype now occurs throughout much of the world where it has successfully established in arid, irrigated agricultural production areas, including mild climate regions of most continents (Fig. 1; Costa et al. 1993; Brown et al. 1995; Summers et al. 1995; Frohlich et al. 1999; Brown 2000; Viscarret et al. 2003).

**Fig. 1** Phylogenetic tree (Clustal W) showing four (of seven) the main clades containing haplotypes of the *Bemisia tabaci* complex, and the affiliation of selected field populations from Turkey (Tu5–14) with the North Africa–Mediterranean–Middle East clade and specifically with the sister clade containing the B biotype (single line box). Also illustrated is that the *B. tabaci* native to Turkey, TC (double line box) is most closely related to the sister clade containing the Q biotype and close relatives. The outgroup (genus) is the greenhouse whitefly, *Trialeurodes vaporariorum* (West.)



During its invasive period, the B biotype also was introduced into Southern Turkey in about 2000 (Ulusoy et al. 2002). However, its distribution and the extent to which it could colonize potential hosts there is not known. Previously, an indigenous *B. tabaci* population had been reported from cotton in Turkey, designated TC (Turkey-cotton) (Bedford et al. 1994). A mtCOI analysis showed that the native TC population grouped in the subclade that also contains the Q type from Spain, and that the two are close relatives but that they diverge by about 3% based on a comparison of their mtCOI sequences (Brown 2001; Kirk et al. 2000; Viscarret et al. 2003).

This objective of this study was to: (i) determine the distribution of the invasive B biotype and other prospective sympatric *B. tabaci* populations, (ii) document the natural host range for *B. tabaci*, and (iii) identify the natural enemies associated with *B. tabaci* in cultivated and uncultivated hosts, in southern Turkey.

## Materials and methods

### Natural host range

Plant species growing within or around agriculture and non-agriculture fields in East Mediterranean region in Turkey were examined for colonization by *B. tabaci*. Collections were made in the southern Turkish provinces of Adana, Mersin, and Hatay during 2000–2002 (Fig. 2). Whitefly-infested leaves were detached from

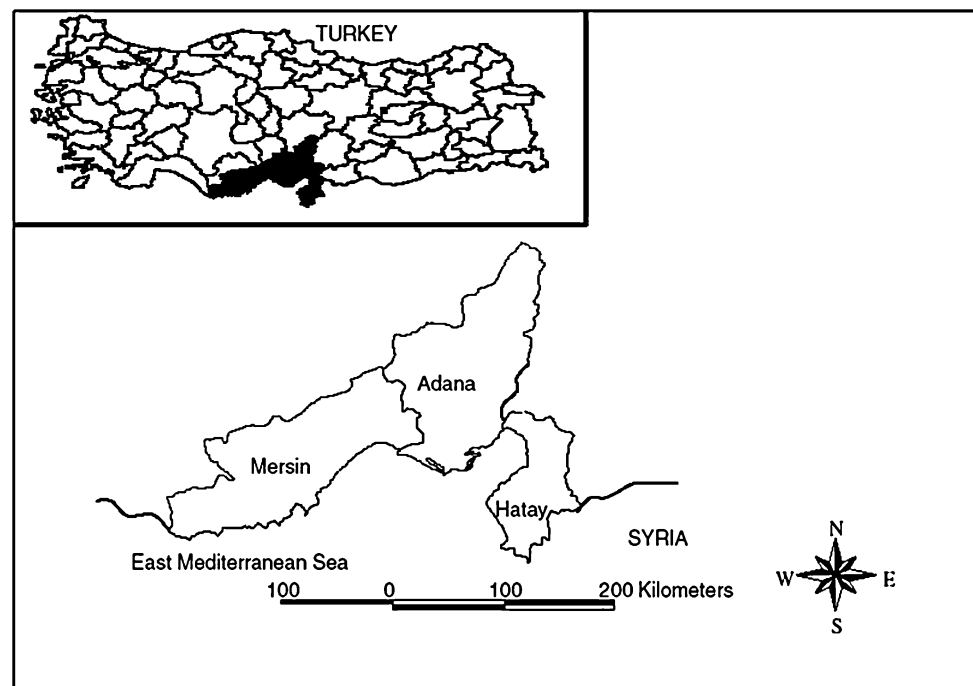
colonized plants, placed into individual plastic bags, and transported to the laboratory for species identification. Leaves were examined to locate the exuvia of the pupal stage (4th instar) using a binocular microscope. Whiteflies were identified to species using key taxonomic criteria of the pupae (Chang 1969; Gill 1992). Plant species for which two or more adults enclosed from exuvia were considered reproductive hosts of *B. tabaci*.

### Natural enemies

Predators associated with whiteflies were collected with modified vacuum samplers in survey areas of *B. tabaci* in the East Mediterranean region of Turkey (Fig. 2). When immature predators were observed associated with whitefly nymphs, the insects were studied in the laboratory to determine if the suspect natural enemy consumed whitefly nymph. Immature predators were collected, together with the plant material infested by the respective prey nymphs. Predator larvae were reared on nymphs in plastic boxes. In field areas (Fig. 2) or in a plastic box in the laboratory observations were used to verify whether the natural enemy consumed nymphs or adult of *B. tabaci*. Also, all parasitoids associated with *B. tabaci* were identified following the collection of nymphs from leaves (Kirk et al. 2000). Leaves were placed in a plastic box in the laboratory and waiting for the adults to emerge 15 days according to Ryckewaert and Alauzet (2002).

The adult predators and parasitoids were identified by Prof. Dr Nedim Uygun (Coccinellidae),

**Fig. 2** The survey areas of *Bemisia tabaci* in the East Mediterranean region of Turkey



Prof. Dr M. Rifat Ulusoy (Aphelinidae and Chrysopidae), and Prof. Dr Suat Kiyak (Anthocoridae, Lygaeidae, and Miridae).

#### Molecular identification of the *B. tabaci* complex

##### *DNA lysis, polymerase chain reaction, and mtCOI sequences*

Adults were removed from leaves of field-infested plants and placed in 95% alcohol. After their identification as *B. tabaci*, 3–4 adults from 68 field collections were homogenized in 30 ml lysis buffer containing 50 mM NaCl, 10 mM Tris–HCl, pH 8.0, 1 mM EDTA, and 0.5% Nonidet P-40. Total nucleic acids were incubated with Proteinase K at 56°C for 2 h, followed by boiling at 95°C for 10 min to inactivate Proteinase K. DNA lysis was stored at –20°C. Polymerase chain reaction (PCR) primers were synthesized in China or the U.S.A. by local, commercial laboratories, respectively (Frohlich et al. 1999): C1-J-2195 (5′-TTGATTT TTT GGTCCATCCAGAAGT-3′) and L2-N-3014 (5′-TCC AATGCACTAATCTGC CATATT A-3′).

A fragment of the mtCOI sequence was amplified for three or more adult whiteflies per field collection, using PCR (Mullis and Faloona 1987). The PCR reaction (40 µl) contained 20 pM each primer, 0.25 mM dNTPs, 2.0 mM Mg<sup>2+</sup>, 1 µl DNA solution, 1.5 unit Taq polymerase (Master Taq, Eppendorf). PCR parameters were: predenaturation at 94°C for 5 min, 35 cycles of denaturation at 94°C for 1 min, annealing at 50°C for 1.5 min, and extension at 72°C for 1.5 min, with a final extension at 72°C for 10 min. A 2-µl aliquot for each PCR product was separated by electrophoresis on a 1.0% agarose gel in Tris–acetate–EDTA buffer, pH 8.0, containing 10 mg ml<sup>-1</sup> ethidium bromide (Sambrook et al. 1989). PCR products of the expected size (~820–850 bp) were visualized under an ultraviolet light.

The DNA sequence was determined for each PCR product ( $n =$  using an ABI Model 377 DNA sequencer, available in the Genomics and Technology Center, The University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ, U.S.A.). The PCR product for each individual was sequenced bi-directionally using the same primers as were employed for mtCOI amplification. The mtCOI sequences (780 bases) were edited manually using a minimal overlap of 400 bases and a consensus sequence was obtained for each population.

#### Whitefly haplotype/biotype determination

Sequences (780 bases) were aligned and the percent nucleotide identity was estimated using the Clustal W

algorithm (Thompson et al. 1994) available in the DNASTAR software (Lasergene, Madison, WI, U.S.A.). Reference mtCOI sequences were obtained from UA laboratory collection and/or from the GenBank database (Bedford et al. 1994; Frohlich et al. 1999; Brown 2000; Kirk et al. 2000; Viscarret et al. 2003; Berry et al. 2004), including the native ‘TC’ population from Turkey. Representative sequences have been deposited as accessions in the NCBI GenBank database. Nucleotide distances were calculated for aligned sequences using Clustal V (DNASTAR, Lasergene).

For tree construction, a single haplotype sequence was included for only selected populations because all field collections were identified as the same haplotype. This was considered appropriate in light of the extreme homogeneity of the field populations examined here ( $n = 68$ ), and to illustrate their common affiliation with reference *B. tabaci* haplotypes. The outgroup (genus level) included in the alignment was the greenhouse whitefly *Trialeurodes vaporariorum* (Westwood) [AF342774].

## Results and discussion

### Natural host range

*Bemisia tabaci* B biotype populations were collected from a total of 152 species from 43 plant families (Table 1). All 152 species were new records for Turkey. In a survey of uncultivated plants in the region, 69 species belonging to 20 plant families were utilized as reproductive hosts, and all hosts supported the complete life cycle of the B biotype. The Malvaceae harbored the greatest number of *B. tabaci* host species at 14, followed by Leguminosae (13), Solanaceae (13), Compositae (10), and the Euphorbiaceae and Labiatae, at 9 each. Thus, the B biotype colonizes at least 152 species in 43 plant families in southern Turkey. Similarly, a great number of host species for the *B. tabaci* complex have been reported throughout the world, and it is known that the B biotype has an extensive host range (Brown et al. 1995). For example, 52 hosts of *B. tabaci* have been reported in Israel (Avidov and Harpaz 1969), 87 in Taiwan (Chang 1969), 172 in Egypt (Bedford et al. 1994), 115 in Sudan (Mound and Halsey 1978), and between 1988 and 1999 63 hosts were reported in Turkey for indigenous *B. tabaci* (Ulusoy 2001) which was prior to the introduction of the B biotype. Also, Mound and Halsey (1978) reported 315 hosts for *B. tabaci*, worldwide, and Cock (1993) listed more than 506 species, worldwide (does not discriminate biotypes or haplotypes).

**Table 1** Plant species colonized by the B biotype of *Bemisia tabaci* in southern Turkey during 2000–2002

Family name	Scientific name
Acanthaceae	<i>Justicia atroata</i> L.
Amaranthaceae	<i>Amaranthus albus</i> L. <i>Amaranthus graecizans</i> L. <i>Amaranthus hybridus</i> L. <i>Amaranthus retroflexus</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Amaranthus spinosus</i> L. <i>Amaranthus viridis</i> L.
Apiaceae	<i>Daucus carota</i> Linn. var. <i>sativa</i> DC
Apocynaceae	<i>Nerium oleander</i> L.
Berberidaceae	<i>Nandina domestica</i> Thunberg
Bignoniaceae	<i>Catalpa bignonioides</i> Walt. <i>Campsis radicans</i> (L.) Seem.
Calycanthaceae	<i>Calycanthus floridus</i> L.
Capparaceae	<i>Capparis ovata</i> Desf.
Capparidaceae	<i>Capparis spinosa</i> L.
Caprifoliaceae	<i>Lonicera japonica</i> Thunb. <i>Viburnum opulus</i> L. <i>Viburnum tinus</i> L. <i>Weigela florida</i> (Bunge)
Chenopodiaceae	<i>Beta vulgaris</i> L. <i>Chenopodium album</i> L. <sup>a</sup>
Cistaceae	<i>Cistus creticus</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Cistus salviaefolius</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Cistus villosus</i> L. <sup>a</sup>
Compositae	<i>Chrysanthemum segetum</i> L. <i>Conyza bonariensis</i> L. <i>Conyza canadensis</i> (L.) <i>Gerbera jamesonii</i> H. Bolus ex Hook f. <i>Helianthus annuus</i> L. <i>Lactuca serriola</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Sonchus arvensis</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Sonchus asper</i> (L.) <sup>a</sup> <i>Sonchus oleraceus</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Xanthium strumarium</i> L. <sup>a</sup>
Convolvulaceae	<i>Convolvulus arvensis</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Ipomea hederacea</i> (L.) Jacq. <i>Ipomea purpurea</i> Roth. <i>Ipomea sagittata</i> Poir. <i>Ipomea stolonifera</i> (Cyr.)
Cruciferae	<i>Allaria petiolata</i> (Bieb.) <i>Capsella bursa-pastoris</i> L. <i>Brassica oleracea</i> var. <i>botrytis</i> <sup>a</sup> <i>Brassica oleracea</i> var. <i>capitata</i> subvar. <i>alba</i> <sup>a</sup> <i>Brassica oleracea</i> var. <i>italica</i> <sup>a</sup> <i>Raphanus raphanistrum</i> L.
Cucurbitaceae	<i>Citrullus lanatus</i> (Thunb.) <i>Cucumis melo</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Cucumis sativus</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Cucurbita pepo</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Momordica balsamina</i> L. <sup>a</sup>
Ebenaceae	<i>Diospyros kaki</i> L.
Euphorbiaceae	<i>Euphorbia helioscopia</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Euphorbia milii</i> var. <i>splendes</i> Boj. ex Hook. <sup>a</sup> <i>Euphorbia nerifolia</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Euphorbia nutans</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Euphorbia peplus</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Euphorbia pulcherrima</i> Willdenow ex Klotzsch <i>Euphorbia supina</i> Rafin. <sup>a</sup>

**Table 1** continued

Family name	Scientific name
	<i>Mercurialis annua</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Ricinus communis</i> L.
Fagaceae	<i>Quercus coccifera</i> L.
Hydrangeaceae	<i>Hydrangea macrophylla</i> (Thunberg) Seringe
Juglandaceae	<i>Carya illinoensis</i> (Wangenh) Koch. <i>Juglans nigra</i> L.
Labiatae	<i>Lamium amplexicaule</i> L. <i>Mentha arvensis</i> L. <i>Mentha piperita</i> L. <i>Mentha sativa</i> L. <i>Salvia aucheri</i> <i>Salvia pratensis</i> L. <i>Salvia sclarea</i> L. <i>Salvia triloba</i> L. <i>Stachys arvensis</i> (L.) <sup>a</sup>
Lauraceae	<i>Laurus nobilis</i> L. <i>Persea americana</i> Miller
Leguminosae	<i>Acacia dealbata</i> Link. <i>Arachis hypogaea</i> L. <i>Bauhinia variegata</i> L. <i>Cercis siliquastrum</i> L. <i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> Roxb. <i>Erythrina crista-galli</i> L. <i>Glycine max</i> (L.) Merrill <sup>a</sup> <i>Medicago sativa</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Physalis alkekengi</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Physalis angulata</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Trifolium repens</i> L. <i>Vigna unguiculata</i> L.
Lythraceae	<i>Lagerstroemia indica</i> L.
Malvaceae	<i>Abutilon hybridum</i> <sup>a</sup> <i>Abutilon striatum</i> Dicks. ex Lindl. <sup>a</sup> <i>Abutilon theophrasti</i> Medicus <sup>a</sup> <i>Alcea pallida</i> Waldst and Kit. <sup>a</sup> <i>Alcea striata</i> Alef. <sup>a</sup> <i>Gossypium</i> spp. <sup>a</sup> <i>Hibiscus esculentus</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Hibiscus rosa-sinensis</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Hibiscus mutabilis</i> L. <i>Hibiscus syriacus</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Hibiscus trionum</i> L. <i>Malva neglecta</i> Wallr. <sup>a</sup> <i>Malva sylvestris</i> L. <sup>a</sup> <i>Malvella sherardiana</i> (L.) Jaub and Spach
Moraceae	<i>Morus alba</i> L. <i>Morus nigra</i> L.
Nyctaginaceae	<i>Bougainvillea</i> spp.
Oleaceae	<i>Forsythia intermedia</i> Zabel <i>Jasminum fruticans</i> L. <i>Jasminum officinale</i> L. <i>Jasminum sambac</i> L. <i>Ligustrum ovalifolium</i> L.
Punicaceae	<i>Punica granatum</i> L. <i>Punica granatum nana</i> L.
Polygonaceae	<i>Rumex acetosella</i> L. <i>Polygonum amphibium</i> L. <i>Polygonum aviculare</i> L. <i>Polygonum convolvulus</i> L. <sup>a</sup>

**Table 1** continued

Family name	Scientific name
	<i>Polygonum hydropiper</i> L.
	<i>Polygonum persicaria</i> L.
Portulacaceae	<i>Portulaca oleracea</i> L.
Rosaceae	<i>Prunus cerasifera</i> Ehrh.
	<i>Prunus persica</i> (L.)
	<i>Prunus persica</i> var. <i>nectarina</i> L.
	<i>Rubus fruticosus</i> L.
	<i>Rosa</i> spp.
	<i>Spiraea vanhouetti</i> Zbl.
Rutaceae	<i>Citrus limon</i> L.
	<i>Citrus paradisi</i> Macfad.
	<i>Citrus sinensis</i> (L.)
Salicaceae	<i>Salix matsudana</i> G. Koidzumi
Sapindaceae	<i>Koelreuteria paniculata</i> Laxmann
Solanaceae	<i>Capsicum annuum</i> L.
	<i>Cestrum fasciculata</i> (Schltdl.) Miers
	<i>Cestrum nocturnum</i> L.
	<i>Datura stramonium</i> L.
	<i>Datura metel</i> L.
	<i>Datura innoxia</i> Miller
	<i>Lycopersicon esculentum</i> Mill. <sup>a</sup>
	<i>Nicotiana tobacum</i> L. <sup>a</sup>
	<i>Petunia hybrida</i> Vilm. <sup>a</sup>
	<i>Solanum luteum</i> Miller <sup>a</sup>
	<i>Solanum melongena</i> L. <sup>a</sup>
	<i>Solanum nigrum</i> L. <sup>a</sup>
	<i>Solanum tuberosum</i> L. <sup>a</sup>
Sterculiaceae	<i>Brachychiton populneum</i> (Schott and Endlicher) R. Brown
Tiliaceae	<i>Corchorus olitorius</i> L. <sup>a</sup>
Urticaceae	<i>Urtica urens</i> L. <sup>a</sup>
Verbenaceae	<i>Duranta repens</i> L.
	<i>Lantana camara</i> L. <sup>a</sup>
Vitaceae	<i>Parthenocissus quinquefolia</i> (L.)
	<i>Vitis vinifera</i> L.
Zygophyllaceae	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i> L.

<sup>a</sup>These plant species were consistently colonized by *Bemisia tabaci* B biotype in southern Turkey

## Natural enemies

Five species of predators and two species parasitoids were associated with *B. tabaci* in southern Turkey (Table 2). The predators belonged to the Neuroptera: Chrysopidae, the Hemiptera: Anthocoridae, Lygaeidae, and Miridae, the Coleoptera: Coccinellidae. *Clitostethus arcuatus* Rossi was the most common predator associated with *B. tabaci* examined in this study. The parasitoids belonged to the Hymenoptera: Aphelinidae. The most common parasitoids associated with the *B. tabaci* in southern Turkey were *Eretmocerus mundus* and *Encarsia lutea*. These results are in agreement with studies reported elsewhere showing that parasitic wasps, *Eretmocerus* and *Encarsia*, are among the most important natural enemies of *B. tabaci* (Gerling 1990; Kirk et al. 2000).

**Table 2** Natural enemies of *Bemisia tabaci* B biotype found in the Mediterranean region, Turkey during 2000–2002

Order	Family	Species
Neuroptera	Chrysopidae	<i>Chrysoperla carnea</i> (Stephan)
Hemiptera	Anthocoridae	<i>Orius niger</i> (W.)
	Lygaeidae	<i>Geocoris</i> sp.
	Miridae	<i>Dereacoris pallens</i> Reuter
Coleoptera	Coccinellidae	<i>Clitostethus arcuatus</i> Rossi
Hymenoptera	Aphelinidae	<i>Eretmocerus mundus</i> Mercet
		<i>Encarsia lutea</i> (Masi)

## Molecular identification of *B. tabaci* biotype and displacement of the native TC population

The subset of *B. tabaci* collections analyzed from southern Turkey were identified as the ‘B’ biotype based on alignment (Clustal W) with well-studied reference haplotype or biotype sequences. The tree shown here resolves three major *B. tabaci* clades, representing the presumed extant geographical origin of represented haplotypes. The exception to this is the ‘B’ biotype, which occurs worldwide as a result of multiple, recent introductions, albeit its origin clearly is the Eastern Hemisphere (Costa et al. 1993; Brown 2000; Brown et al. 1995; Kirk et al. 2000).

The *B. tabaci* clades herein are delineated geographically as: (i) Americas and Caribbean (three sister clades), (ii) Mediterranean/North Africa/Middle East (two sister clades), (iii) Southeast Asia I, II, and Australia (three or more sister clades) (Fig. 1). Representatives from sub-Saharan Africa were not included because they are not relevant to the data set (see Brown 2000). The B biotype grouped within one sister clade within the large Mediterranean/North African clade, while the native Turkey TC reference population grouped with the second sister clade, which contains the Spanish Q biotype and its close relatives, e.g., haplotypes of uncharacterized Q- and TC-like populations from the region (Brown 2000).

The B biotype is not native to Turkey, but is a recent introduction (Brown 2001). A *B. tabaci* population collected from cotton in southern Turkey in 1985 and designated the TC (Bedford et al. 1994; Brown et al. 1995) is probably indigenous to the region. The TC/Q-like and B haplotype/biotype represent distinct lineages, or sister clades, within the large Mediterranean–North Africa/Middle East clade, at > 8% divergence (data

not shown). No *B. tabaci* collections examined here were identified as either the local TC or the Q haplotype, the latter, which is known to be a pest/vector in vegetable crops in Spain/Sudan/Morocco (Fig. 1).

The percent nucleotide sequence divergence between the B biotype field collections from Turkey was low at ~0–3% (data not shown), indicating there is minimal nucleotide variation between individuals examined in this study. Thus, the genetic composition of the B biotype collected in Turkey is highly homogeneous, as has been observed elsewhere for this invasive whitefly species (Frohlich et al. 1999; Brown 2000). Our results also suggest that the B biotype has displaced the indigenous TC haplotype (Fig. 1; Q and relatives sister clade) in southern Turkey, the latter, which was known to be present there in 1985. The TC haplotype was probably the predominant one in Turkey previously, and until 1999, when the B biotype was introduced there.

These results are consistent with the hypothesis that the B biotype is an exotic, introduced whitefly (Ulusoy et al. 2002) of extreme genetic heterogeneity (Brown 2000), which has many of the qualities characteristic to invasive species, including the ability to displace indigenous populations (Costa et al. 1993; Brown et al. 1995; Viscarret et al. 2003). The invasive B biotype is known to predominate upon its introduction into a number of locales, and to successfully establish in arid, irrigated agricultural areas (Brown et al. 1995; Brown 2000). The B biotype was first discovered in the Americas in approximately 1986–1987 (Costa and Brown 1991), and in other locations in the Americas and American Tropics, where it is known to have displaced the local *B. tabaci* haplotype(s) in many locations.

In contrast, the Q biotype, which is indigenous to southern Spain, has not been displaced by the introduction of the B biotype, and in fact has regained its status as the predominant biotype there (reviewed in Brown 2000). Whether the TC haplotype has survived the establishment of the B biotype in southern Turkey remains to be seen.

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