



# Toxicity and Transgenerational Effects of Insecticides on *Trichopria anastrephae* (Hymenoptera: Diapriidae)

Maíra Chagas Morais<sup>1</sup> · Matheus Rakes<sup>1</sup> · Rafael Antonio Pasini<sup>2</sup> · Anderson Dionei Grützmacher<sup>1</sup> · Dori Edson Nava<sup>3</sup> · Daniel Bernardi<sup>1</sup>

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## Abstract

*Trichopria anastrephae* Costa Lima, 1940 (Hymenoptera: Diapriidae) is a pupal endoparasitoid of *Drosophila suzukii* Matsumura, 1931 (Diptera: Drosophilidae) in Brazil. This species is of great agricultural importance and is almost exclusively managed by organophosphate, spinosyn, pyrethroid, neonicotinoid, and avermectin insecticides. However, frequent application of insecticides can have negative effects on the parasitoid. The objective of this study was to evaluate the lethal and transgenerational toxicity of five insecticides on *T. anastrephae* adults during the F<sub>0</sub>, F<sub>1</sub>, and F<sub>2</sub> generations. *Drosophila suzukii* puparia were sprayed prior to their exposure to *T. anastrephae* for 24 h. Parameters evaluated in generation F<sub>0</sub> were mortality and rate of parasitism. After the emergence of the F<sub>1</sub> generation, the emergence rate and sex ratio were analyzed. Then, pairs of parasitoids were selected from F<sub>1</sub> and pupae; the host was offered to evaluate parasitism, emergence, and sex ratio of the F<sub>2</sub> generation. In the F<sub>0</sub> generation, malathion was the only insecticide that caused 100% mortality of adults of *T. anastrephae*. However, all insecticides tested affected the parasitism rate, being classified as moderately to slightly harmful. In F<sub>1</sub>, the emergence of *T. anastrephae* was also affected, making the insecticides moderately to slightly harmful. However, there were no significant differences in the sex ratio and parasitism rate or the parameters evaluated in F<sub>2</sub>, which means that all products were classified as harmless. These results are important for the development of Integrated Management programs for *D. suzukii* and for the conservation of natural populations of *T. anastrephae* in the field.

**Keywords** Chemical control · biological control · integrated pest management · selectivity · *Drosophila suzukii*

## Introduction

*Trichopria anastrephae* Costa Lima, 1940 (Hymenoptera: Diapriidae) is a parasitoid species endemic to South America (Cruz et al. 2011). It is classified as an idiobiont pupal endoparasitoid and deposits eggs in the hemocoel of fruit fly puparia (Wang et al. 2018; Gonzalez-Cabrera et al. 2019).

In Brazil, it has been found on strawberry fruits infested by *Drosophila suzukii* Matsumura, 1931 (Diptera: Drosophilidae) (Wollmann et al. 2016; Andrezza et al. 2017a), a pest insect considered of major agricultural importance in small fruit crops worldwide (Walsh et al. 2011; Calabria et al. 2012; Cini et al. 2012), and in Brazil as of the year 2014 (Deprá et al. 2014; Schlesener et al. 2015; Andrezza et al. 2017b; Dos Santos et al. 2017).

In *D. suzukii* puparia, females of the genus *Trichopria* have the ability to cause the mortality of 100 individuals per generation (Yi et al. 2020). *Trichopria anastrephae* has a life cycle (egg to adult) of approximately 21 days (Krüger et al. 2019; Vieira et al. 2020) and demonstrates a high capacity for interspecific competition with the pupal parasitoid *Pachycrepoideus vindemniae* Rondani, 1875 (Hymenoptera: Pteromalidae), also on *D. suzukii* pupae (Oliveira et al. 2020).

Because *D. suzukii* larvae have a well-developed immune system, producing a physiological response by increasing the amount of hemocytes and encapsulating the immature

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✉ Daniel Bernardi  
dbernardi2004@yahoo.com.br

- <sup>1</sup> Department of Plant Protection, Faculty of Agronomy, Federal University of Pelotas, Pelotas, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- <sup>2</sup> Riograndense Higher Education Center, Sarandi, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil
- <sup>3</sup> Embrapa Clima Temperado, Pelotas, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil

stages of larval parasitoids, the use of species such as *Asobara japonica* Belokobylskij, 1998 (Hymenoptera: Braconidae), *Ganaspis brasiliensis* Ihering, 1905, and *Leptopilina* spp. (Hymenoptera: Figitidae) (Poyet et al. 2013; Iacovone et al. 2018; Wang et al. 2021) can become compromised, so the use and conservation of the parasitoid pupal *T. anastrephae* are even more important (Kacsoh and Schlenke 2012).

Although the parasitoid *T. anastrephae* is effective against *D. suzukii* (Krüger et al. 2019; Vieira et al. 2020), chemical control with insecticides broad spectrum, including organophosphates, spinosyns, pyrethroids, neonicotinoids, and avermectins is the most used approach for pest management worldwide (Haye et al. 2016; Andrezza et al. 2017b). In Brazil, spinetoram (spinosyns) is the only insecticide registered for the control of *D. suzukii* to date (Agrofit 2021). In view of this, the insecticides used are those recommended for other fly species, such as *Anastrepha fraterculus* (Wiedemann, 1830) and *Ceratitis capitata* (Wiedemann, 1824) (Diptera: Tephritidae) (Andrezza et al. 2017b; Schlesener et al. 2019; Morais et al. 2021).

While biological control is a promising alternative for *D. suzukii* management (Schetelig et al. 2018; Gonzalez-Cabrera et al. 2019; Krüger et al. 2019; Lee et al. 2019), the frequent application of insecticides each season can have lethal and/or sublethal effects on *T. anastrephae* and also impair the population density and biological performance of the parasitoid over generations (Costa et al. 2014; Beloti et al. 2015; Schlesener et al. 2019; Morales et al. 2020). Therefore, the objective of the present study was to evaluate the lethal (mortality) and transgenerational effects on parasitism, emergence, sex ratio, and survival in F<sub>0</sub>, F<sub>1</sub>, and F<sub>2</sub> generations of five insecticides widely used in Brazilian fruit growing on *T. anastrephae* adults.

## Material and Methods

### Insects

*Drosophila suzukii* was reared on an artificial diet based on cornmeal, yeast, and sugar as proposed by Schlesener et al.

(2017). *Trichopria anastrephae* parasitoids were reared and multiplied in *D. suzukii* puparia as per Vieira et al. (2020). Both were kept in a climate-controlled room with a temperature of  $25 \pm 2$  °C, relative humidity of  $70 \pm 10\%$ , and photophase of 12 h.

### Insecticides

We used commercial formulations of five insecticides, representing the main chemical groups used to control arthropod pests of fruit trees grown in Brazil (Table 1). The applied doses followed the recommendations of the manufacturer's package inserts and were diluted in distilled water (Table 1).

### Bioassay of toxicity and transgenerational effects

First, 24-h-old *D. suzukii* pupae were separated and deposited on Petri dishes (8-cm diameter) (approximately 150 pupae/treatment). Subsequently, insecticides diluted in distilled water (treatments) were applied by spraying via a calibrated Potter tower to deposit a volume of  $1.25 \pm 0.25$  mg cm<sup>-2</sup> according to the protocols established by the IOBC (Hassan et al. 2000). Distilled water was used as a negative control. The pupae were kept for one hour on filter paper at a temperature of  $25 \pm 2$  °C and relative humidity of  $70 \pm 10\%$  to allow evaporation of excess spray. After that time, 15 pupae exposed to the treatments were offered for parasitism to each pair of *T. anastrephae* (aged 24 h) in plastic cages made from acrylic tubes (2.5-cm diameter × 4.5-cm height) closed at the top with voile fabric (Vieira et al. 2020). The adults of *T. anastrephae* were fed with pure honey droplets and the pupae were exposed to parasitism for 24 h. After this period, pupae were removed and packed in new acrylic tubes (until emergence, approximately 18 days under bioassay conditions) and *T. anastrephae* pairs were kept in 2.5 cm × 8.5 cm flat-bottomed glass tubes closed at the top with voile tissue. The experimental design was entirely randomized, with six treatments and 10 replicates (acrylic tubes) per treatment, with each replicate consisting of a pair of *T. anastrephae*. The biological parameters evaluated were mortality of *T. anastrephae* after 24 h in contact with pupae contaminated by the treatments, pupal parasitism defined by counting emerged

**Table 1** Commercial insecticides used to assess lethal and sublethal toxicity in *Trichopria anastrephae*

Active ingredient	Trade name	Insecticide class (IRAC MoA)	Dose	Crop in which are registered
Abamectin	Vertimec 18 EC <sup>a</sup>	Avermectin (6)	75 mL/100 L	Strawberry
Deltamethrin	Decis 25 EC <sup>b</sup>	Pyrethroid (3A)	50 mL/100 L	Citrus, peach, and apple
Malathion	Malathion 1000 EC Cheminova <sup>c</sup>	Organophosphate (1B)	200 mL/100 L	Citrus and peach
Spinetoram	Delegate <sup>d</sup>	Spinosyn (5)	20 g/100 L	Blackberry, raspberry, and blueberry
Thiamethoxam	Actara 250 WG <sup>a</sup>	Neonicotinoid (4A)	10 g/100 L	Strawberry

Manufacturers: <sup>a</sup>Syngenta Crop Protection Ltda, São Paulo, SP, Brazil; <sup>b</sup>Bayer S.A, São Paulo, SP, Brazil; <sup>c</sup>Corteva Agriscience, São Paulo, SP, Brazil; <sup>d</sup>FMC Chemistry do Brazil Ltda, São Paulo, SP, Brazil

parasitoids and opening puparia without emergence to verify the presence of *D. suzukii* or *T. anastrephae*, the emergence of parasitoids and sex ratio [ $\Sigma\text{♀}/\Sigma(\text{♀ and ♂})$ ].

From the total number of emerged individuals from each treatment ( $F_1$  generation), a minimum of five and a maximum of 15 pairs of *T. anastrephae* were separated and placed in acrylic cages, as mentioned above, and offered 15 pupae of *D. suzukii* (24 h of age) for a period of 24 h. After this time, the parasitoids were removed and placed in new cages (acrylic tubes) and fed with droplets of pure honey to evaluate the survival of males and females. Pupae were placed in an acclimatized room with a temperature of  $25 \pm 2$  °C to evaluate parasitism, emergence, and the sex ratio of  $F_2$  generation *T. anastrephae*.

### IOBC classification

To determine toxicity classes, the reduction (R) in parasitism ( $F_0$  and  $F_1$ ) and emergence ( $F_1$  and  $F_2$ ) was calculated using the equation  $R = 100 - [(insecticide\ treatment\ value/control\ value) \times 100]$ , according to Hassan (1994). Then, insecticides were grouped into toxicity classes according to the calculated values based on the criteria established by the International Organization for Biological and Integrated Control (IOBC) (Hassan et al. 2000). The toxicity classes were class 1 = harmless ( $R < 30\%$ ); 2 = slightly harmful ( $R = 30-79\%$ ); 3 = moderately harmful ( $R = 80-99\%$ ); and 4 = harmful ( $R > 99\%$ ).

### Data analysis

The data obtained were tested for normality by the Shapiro–Wilk test and for homogeneity of variance by the Bartlett test. When these assumptions were not met, the data were subjected to non-parametric Kruskal–Wallis analysis of variance, and means were compared using the Dunn test with Bonferroni correction at 5% error probability. For the survival curve, data on the longevity of individuals were used to estimate survival curves using the Kaplan–Meier estimator and comparing the survival curves by the log-rank test through the program SigmaPlot (v.12.5, Systat Software Inc., California, USA). Statistical analyses were performed with R version 4.0.0 software (R Development Core Team 2020).

## Results

### Toxicity on *T. anastrephae* and on biological parameters in $F_0$

When adult parasitoids were exposed to *D. suzukii* pupae treated with insecticides, significant mortality values were

observed among the treatments evaluated ( $Kw = 44.51$ ;  $df = 5, 54$ ;  $p\text{-value} < 0.001$ ) (Table 2). The insecticide malathion showed the highest acute toxicity, causing 100% mortality of *T. anastrephae* adults (Table 2). By contrast, the insecticides deltamethrin and spinetoram caused 60 and 50% mortality of *T. anastrephae*, respectively (Table 2), whereas thiamethoxam and abamectin were statistically similar to the control treatment (Table 2). Regarding parasitism rate, significant differences ( $Kw = 47.62$ ;  $df = 5, 54$ ;  $p\text{-value} < 0.001$ ) were found in all treatments compared to the control. The lowest parasitism rates were seen for the insecticides malathion ( $P = 0.60$  parasitized pupae) and deltamethrin ( $P = 1.20$  parasitized pupae) (Table 2). These produced the greatest reductions in parasitism, and thus, malathion (PR = 95.27%) and deltamethrin (PR = 90.50%) were classified as moderately harmful (class 3) (Table 2). Conversely, the insecticides thiamethoxam (RP = 55.11%), spinetoram (RP = 48.81%), and abamectin (RP = 32.28%) were classified as slightly harmful (Class 2) (Table 2).

### Transgenerational effects in the $F_1$ generation

The emergence rate of the  $F_1$  generation of *T. anastrephae* was significantly affected by the tested insecticides ( $Kw = 46.29$ ;  $df = 5, 54$ ;  $p\text{-value} < 0.001$ ). The control treatment had a mean of 12.20 emerged parasitoids (Table 3), while the lowest emergence rates were caused by the insecticides malathion, with 0.50 parasitoids (SR = 95.90%), and deltamethrin with 1.20 parasitoids (SR = 90.16%) (Table 3), which were thus classified as moderately harmful (class 3). By contrast, the insecticides thiamethoxam (RE = 53.27%) and spinetoram (RE = 48.36%) were classified as slightly

**Table 2** Mortality, parasitism rate, parasitism reduction, and IOBC classification for  $F_0$  generation of *Trichopria anastrephae* when subjected to different insecticides

Treatment	Mortality (%)	P ( $\bar{x} \pm SE$ ) <sup>a</sup>	PR(%) <sup>b</sup>	C <sup>c</sup>
Abamectin	10.0 ± 6.66 <sup>c</sup>	8.6 ± 0.83 <sup>b</sup>	32.2	2
Deltamethrin	60.0 ± 10.00 <sup>b</sup>	1.2 ± 0.24 <sup>d</sup>	90.5	3
Malathion	100.0 ± 0.00 <sup>a</sup>	0.6 ± 0.26 <sup>d</sup>	95.2	3
Spinetoram	50.0 ± 0.00 <sup>b</sup>	6.5 ± 0.70 <sup>b,c</sup>	48.8	2
Thiamethoxam	15.0 ± 10.67 <sup>c</sup>	5.7 ± 0.52 <sup>c</sup>	55.1	2
Control	0.0 ± 0.00 <sup>c</sup>	12.7 ± 0.53 <sup>a</sup>	-	-
Kw	44.513	47.6179		
df	5, 54	5, 54		
p-value	<0.0000001	<0.0000001		

Means followed by the same letter do not differ statistically by Dunn's test with Bonferroni correction ( $p < 0.05$ ). <sup>a</sup>Evaluation of the number of parasitized pupae in each treatment. <sup>b</sup>Percentage of parasitism reduction compared to control. <sup>c</sup>IOBC classes—class 1: innocuous (PR < 30%); class 2: slightly harmful (30% ≤ PR ≤ 79%); class 3: moderately harmful (80% ≤ PR ≤ 99%); class 4: harmful (PR > 99%)

harmful (class 2) and abamectin (RE = 29.50%) as harmless (class 1) (Table 3). No significant differences were observed in the sex ratio among the treatments (Kw = 9.12; df = 5, 54;  $p$ -value = 0.10 (Table 3) or with respect to the parasitism rates of the  $F_1$  generation (Kw = 9.94; df = 4, 60;  $p$ -value = 0.04) (Table 3). Based on the percentage reduction of  $F_1$  parasitism, the insecticides were classified as harmless (class 1) (Table 3).

The survival curves of males and females of the  $F_1$  generation of *T. anastrephae* showed a significant difference between treatments (males:  $\chi^2 = 77.4$ ; df = 4;  $p$ -value < 0.001, females:  $\chi^2 = 77.9$ , df = 4,  $p$ -value < 0.001) (Fig. 1). The insecticides deltamethrin (10.80 days) and thiamethoxam (13.06 days) caused the greatest reductions in male insect survival, relative to the control treatment (29.73 days) (Fig. 1A). The same pattern was observed for *T. anastrephae* females (Fig. 1B). Abamectin did not affect the longevity of males and females of *T. anastrephae* compared to the control treatment (Fig. 1A and B).

### Transgenerational effects in the $F_2$ generation

No significant differences were observed in the emergence rate of *T. anastrephae* in the  $F_2$  generation (Kw = 9.77; df = 4, 60;  $p$ -value = 0.04) between the treatments evaluated (Table 4). In view of this, all the insecticides evaluated were classified as innocuous (class 1). Similarly, no significant differences were observed in the sex ratio of *T. anastrephae* of the  $F_2$  generation (Kw = 1.49; df = 4, 60;  $p$ -value = 0.83) (Table 4).

## Discussion

Chemical control involving insecticides is an important part of pest arthropod management in Brazilian fruit production. However, the ecological services provided by

natural enemies are now receiving due recognition as more sustainable practices are sought. Therefore, studies aiming to evaluate the compatibility between insecticides and natural enemies, within the precepts of IPM, are indispensable (Roubos et al. 2014). In this study, all insecticides tested have neurotoxic effects, and given that there are similarities between the modes of nerve impulse transmission between different animal phyla, they are usually classified as less selective to non-target organisms (Amarasekare et al. 2016; Fontes et al. 2018). The fact was verified about *T. anastrephae* adults in  $F_0$  generation, with emphasis on the organophosphate insecticide.

The highest mortality caused by malathion ( $F_0$  generation of *T. anastrephae*) may have occurred by contact or inhalation during the period of exposure to parasitism, and the lethal impact of this organophosphate insecticide may be attributed to the rapid transformation of oxygenase enzymes, thus inhibiting the action of acetylcholinesterase and other enzyme systems that perform detoxification (Büyükgüzel 2006). These results are similar to those found when *T. anastrephae* adults were exposed to dry insecticide residues via the tarsal contact method (Schlesener et al. 2019) and for the parasitoid *Palmistichus elaeis* Delvare & LaSalle, 1993 (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) exposed to the insecticide malathion (100% mortality) (Cruz et al. 2017).

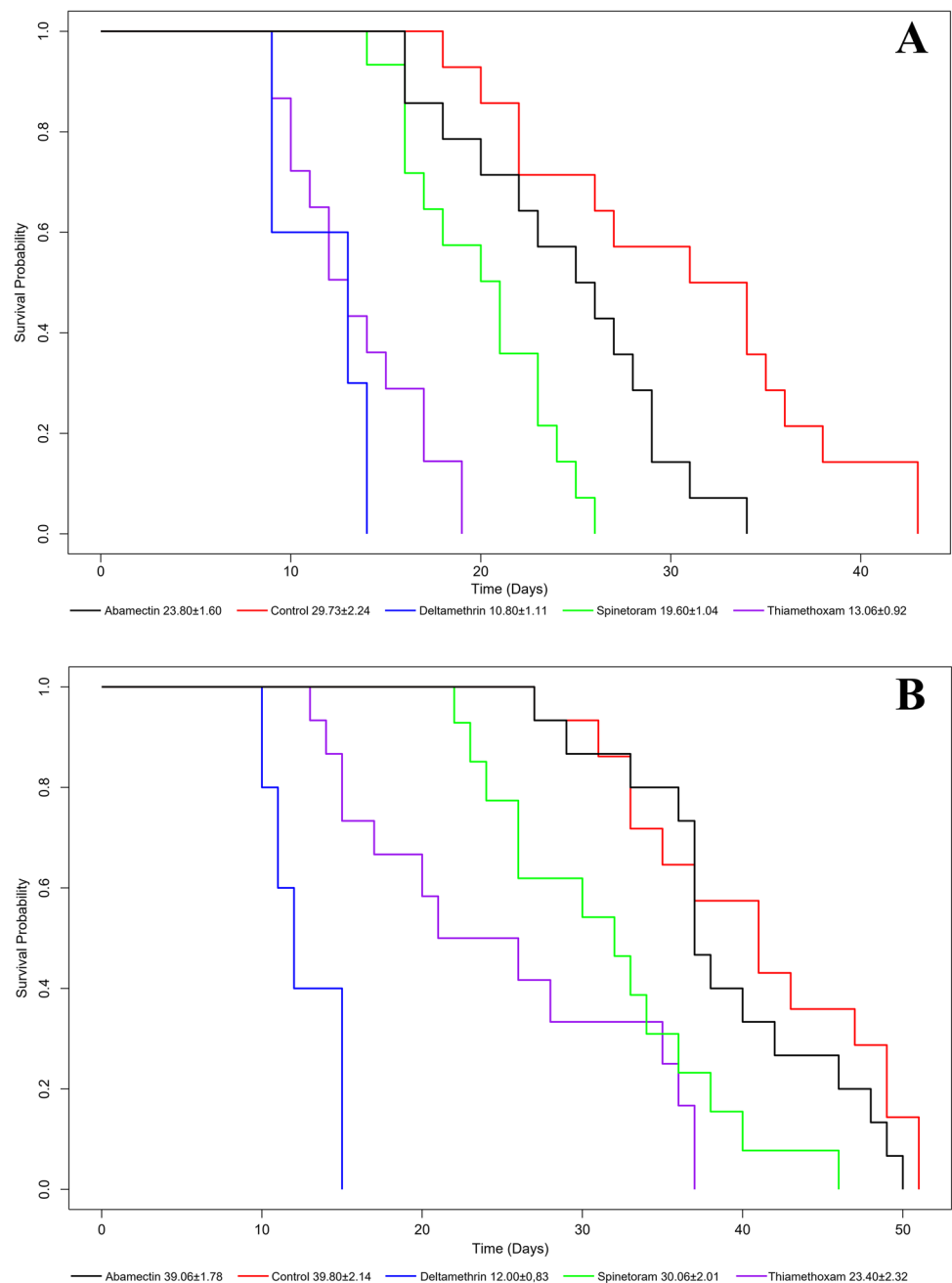
In addition to providing high toxicity on *T. anastrephae* adults, in the  $F_0$  generation, all insecticides significantly affected the rate of parasitism of *T. anastrephae*. This may be attributed to the fact that neurotoxic insecticides affect the neurosecretory system of arthropods, and since reproduction is regulated by hormones, the insecticides may have caused the hormonal imbalance in the insects, interfering in parasitism of the species (Maddrell and Reynolds 1972). Similar results were reported by Fontes et al. (2018) for *Trichogramma achaeae* Nagaraja and Nagarkatti, 1971 (Hymenoptera: Trichogrammatidae) for the insecticides abamectin and

**Table 3** Emergence rate and parasitism, emergence reduction and parasitism, sex ratio, and IOBC classification for  $F_1$  generation of *Trichopria anastrephae* when subjected to different insecticides

Treatment	E ( $\bar{x} \pm SE$ ) <sup>a</sup>	ER(%) <sup>b</sup>	C <sup>c</sup>	SR ( $\bar{x} \pm SE$ ) <sup>d</sup>	P ( $\bar{x} \pm SE$ ) <sup>e</sup>	PR (%) <sup>b</sup>	C <sup>c</sup>
Abamectin	8.6 ± 0.83 <sup>b</sup>	29.5	1	0.6 ± 0.15 <sup>a</sup>	10.8 ± 0.50 <sup>a</sup>	14.28	1
Deltamethrin	1.2 ± 0.24 <sup>d</sup>	90.1	3	0.5 ± 0.15 <sup>a</sup>	11.2 ± 1.68 <sup>a</sup>	11.11	1
Malathion	0.5 ± 0.22 <sup>d</sup>	95.9	3	0.6 ± 0.06 <sup>a</sup>	-	-	-
Spinetoram	6.3 ± 0.77 <sup>b,c</sup>	48.3	2	0.5 ± 0.09 <sup>a</sup>	10.7 ± 0.56 <sup>a</sup>	15.24	1
Thiamethoxam	5.7 ± 0.91 <sup>c</sup>	53.2	2	0.4 ± 0.09 <sup>a</sup>	11.9 ± 0.52 <sup>a</sup>	5.76	1
Control	12.2 ± 0.74 <sup>a</sup>	-	-	0.6 ± 0.06 <sup>a</sup>	12.6 ± 0.28 <sup>a</sup>	-	-
Kw	46.2943			9.1217	9.9418		
df	5, 54			5, 54	4, 60		
$p$ -value	< 0.0000001			0.1043	0.04		

Means followed by the same letter do not differ statistically by Dunn's test with Bonferroni correction ( $p < 0.05$ ). <sup>a</sup>Assessment of the number of emerged parasitoids. <sup>b</sup>Emergency reduction (ER) or parasitism reduction (PR) compared to control. <sup>c</sup>IOBC classes—class 1: innocuous (ER or PR < 30%); class 2: slightly harmful (30% ≤ ER or PR ≤ 79%); class 3: moderately harmful (80% ≤ ER or PR ≤ 99%); class 4: harmful (ER or PR > 99%). <sup>d</sup>Sex ratio. <sup>e</sup>Evaluation of the number of parasitized pupae in each treatment

**Fig. 1** Survival curve of adults of the  $F_1$  generation of *Trichopria anastrephae*, **A** males and **B** females, when subjected to different insecticides. The curves were generated using Kaplan–Meier estimators and compared using the log-rank test ( $P < 0.05$ )



thiamethoxam, when sprayed on host eggs. The results for deltamethrin may be directly related to the high toxicity, penetration capacity, and fast action of the product since they act as modulators of sodium channels, causing paralysis and physiological and behavioral changes. The repellent action of this chemical may also have contributed to the reduction of parasitism of *T. anastrephae* (Bos and Masson 1983; Costa et al. 2020). Consequently, the emergence rate of the  $F_1$  generation was also significantly affected, such that malathion and deltamethrin reduced emergence by more than 90%.

Despite their negative effects on the emergence of  $F_1$  generation adults, the insecticides did not affect the sex ratio of *T. anastrephae*. Several studies have shown that agrochemicals products can also cause changes in the sex ratio of beneficial insects. For instance, the organophosphorus insecticide chlorpyrifos modified the sex ratio of the offspring of several Hymenoptera parasitoid (Delpuech and Meyet 2003), whereas imidacloprid significantly changed the sex ratio of the progeny of *Encarsia inaron* Walker (Hymenoptera: Aphelinidae) by increasing the number of male offspring (Sohrabi et al. 2012). However, the mechanisms underlying



**Table 4** Emergence rate, emergence reduction, IOBC rating and sex ratio for F<sub>2</sub> generation of *Trichopria anastrephae* when subjected to different insecticides

Treatment	E ( $\bar{x} \pm SE$ ) <sup>a</sup>	ER (%) <sup>b</sup>	C <sup>c</sup>	SR ( $\bar{x} \pm SE$ ) <sup>d</sup>
Abamectin	10.7 ± 0.52 <sup>a</sup>	12.47	1	0.66 ± 0.06 <sup>a</sup>
Deltamethrin	9.8 ± 1.80 <sup>a</sup>	19.67	1	0.42 ± 0.17 <sup>a</sup>
Spinetoram	9.8 ± 0.65 <sup>a</sup>	19.67	1	0.67 ± 0.06 <sup>a</sup>
Thiamethoxam	11.2 ± 0.95 <sup>a</sup>	8.64	1	0.67 ± 0.04 <sup>a</sup>
Control	12.2 ± 0.33 <sup>a</sup>	-	-	0.68 ± 0.03 <sup>a</sup>
Kw	9.767			1.4904
df	4, 60			4, 60
p-value	0.04			0.8283

Means followed by the same letter do not differ statistically by Dunn's test with Bonferroni correction ( $p < 0.05$ ). <sup>a</sup>Evaluation of the number of emerged parasitoids. <sup>b</sup>Reduction of parasitoid emergence compared to control (ER). <sup>c</sup>IOBC classes—class 1: innocuous (ER < 30%); class 2: slightly harmful (30% ≤ ER ≤ 79%); class 3: moderately harmful (80% ≤ ER ≤ 99%); class 4: harmful (ER > 99%). <sup>d</sup>Sex ratio

the change in the sex ratio of beneficial arthropods caused by insecticides have not been evaluated yet. In the present study, the proportion of the sex ratio of *T. anastrephae* has not changed. This lack of effect on the sex ratio emphasizes the potential of this species as a biological control agent for *D. suzukii*. By contrast, negative effects, as reported by Costa et al. (2014) for *Trichogramma galloi* Zucchi, 1988, would reduce the proportion of females, making it impossible for them to perform their ecological role.

The insecticides deltamethrin and thiamethoxam caused the greatest reductions in the survival of *T. anastrephae*. The active ingredient thiamethoxam, belonging to the neonicotinoid group, is a competitive agonist of nicotinic acetylcholine receptors, being able to induce continuous excitation in neuronal membranes, which results in discharges, paralysis, and the depletion of cellular energy. Pazini et al. (2019) demonstrated similar results regarding the survival of the F<sub>1</sub> generation of *Telenomus podisi* Ashmead, 1893 (Hymenoptera: Platygastridae) when eggs of *Euschistus heros* Fabricius, 1798 (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae) were exposed to thiamethoxam prior to parasitism by F<sub>0</sub>. As well as, the effect of deltamethrin on the nervous system of *T. anastrephae* affected adult emergence and subsequent longevity of insects (Garcia et al. 2006). Therefore, the use of deltamethrin-based insecticides in pest management will provide difficulties for the parasitoid to find the host and negatively affect the parasitism of *D. suzukii*.

The F<sub>2</sub> generation of *T. anastrephae* was not affected by any of the treatments, so all insecticides were classified as innocuous at this stage. Similar results were found by Beloti et al. (2015) for *Tamarixia radiata* Waterston, 1922 (Hymenoptera: Eulophidae) when treatments were sprayed on orange tree discs and the F<sub>0</sub> parasitoids remained in

contact for 24 h. Likewise, Paiva et al. (2018) reported that when treatments were sprayed on eggs of *Ephesia kuehniella* Zeller, 1879 (Lepidoptera: Pyralidae) prior to parasitism by the F<sub>0</sub> generation of *Trichogramma pretiosum* Riley, 1879 (Hymenoptera: Trichogrammatidae), there were no transgenerational effects on the F<sub>2</sub> generation. However, it is worth noting that the present study was conducted under laboratory conditions, so the parasitoid was exposed to the worst possible conditions. Thus, studies in semi-field and field situations should be conducted since the effects of the environment, such as sunlight (Paiva et al. 2018), can accelerate the degradation of the chemicals and lead to lower acute and sublethal toxicity than in the laboratory setting.

The findings in this study will contribute to the development of IPM programs in which the integration of chemical and biological control is sought of *D. suzukii*; this is because we have the constant occurrence of *T. anastrephae*, a recurrent species in small fruit crops infested by these flies in Brazil (Wollmann et al. 2016, Bernardi et al. 2017). Although the insecticides evaluated in this study (abamectin, deltamethrin, malathion, spinetoram, and thiamethoxam) do not show transgenerational effects on *T. anastrephae*, the use of these products in the management of *D. suzukii* and other arthropod pests that infest the strawberry crop must be used with care, so as not to harm the natural biological control of *D. suzukii* or in a possible mass release program of this parasitoid in the field (Krüger et al. 2019; Vieira et al. 2020). Thus, in areas with the occurrence of *T. anastrephae*, producers should use alternative products, such as plant extracts and essential oils or products based on azadirachtin (De souza et al. 2021), as they do not present toxicity to the parasitoid and are toxic for *D. suzukii* adults.

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## Declarations

**Conflict of interest** The authors declare no competing interests.

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