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Complementary suppression of aphids by predators and parasitoids

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1 Complementary suppression of aphids by predators and parasitoids

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16 ABSTRACT

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18 Biocontrol practitioners have long debated the relative merits of specialist parasitoids
19 versus generalist predators as biological control agents. Predators and parasitoids
20 exhibit a broad array of ecological differences that might lead them to play different,
21 and perhaps complementary, roles in pest suppression. However, predators often feed
22 on parasitoids with the potential to disrupt biological control. We compared suppression
23 of the woolly apple aphid (*Eriosoma lanigerum*) when attacked solely by the specialist
24 parasitoid *Aphelinus mali*, to aphid suppression when the parasitoid was joined by a
25 diverse community of generalist predators (primarily earwigs, syrphids, predatory bugs

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