

**REARING TRIUNGULINS OF *MELOE* FOUND IN OREGON AND THEIR
POSSIBLE ASSOCIATION WITH *Apis mellifer***

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Meloe larvae are parasites of bees. Triungulin or first instar larvae climb onto flowers and attach to bees that visit the flower. These tiny larvae were found on the varroa drop sheets placed in research colonies of honey bees during the spring of 2000. *Meloe* larvae have been reported on honey bees but are not commonly observed, probably because of their small size. A few reports suggest they damage colonies (Pinto and Selander (1970)). In December 2001 adult *Meloe* were collected in Oregon and maintained in the laboratory where they mated and eggs were laid. Eggs were observed at different temperatures and hatching triungulins were cultured on various substrates, and offered pupae of *A. mellifera* and *Megachilie rotendata*. Temperatures that are found in honey bee colony brood areas seem to be too warm for the triungulins of this species; suggesting that honey bees are not a likely host.