



IDENTIFICATION OF A TRIGLYCERIDE (GLYCERYL-1,2-DIOLEATE-3-PALMITATE) AS A BROOD PHEROMONE OF THE HONEY BEE (APIS MELLIFERA L.)

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N. Koeniger, H. J. Veith. IDENTIFICATION OF A TRIGLYCERIDE (GLYCERYL-1,2-DIOLEATE-3-PALMITATE) AS A BROOD PHEROMONE OF THE HONEY BEE (APIS MELLIFERA L.). *Apidologie*, 1983, 14 (1), pp.59-59. hal-00890585

HAL Id: hal-00890585

<https://hal.science/hal-00890585>

Submitted on 11 May 2020

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**IDENTIFICATION OF A TRIGLYCERIDE
(GLYCERYL-1,2-DIOLEATE-3-PALMITATE)**

**AS A BROOD PHEROMONE OF THE HONEY BEE (*APIS MELLIFERA*
L.)**

**Identifizierung eines Tri-Glycerids (Glyceryl-1, 2-dioleat-3-palmitat)
als Brutpheromon der Honigbiene (*Apis mellifera* L.)**

**Identification d'un triglycéride (glyceryl-1, 2-dioléate-3-palmitate)
comme phéromone de couvain de l'abeille (*Apis mellifica* L.)**

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Honey bees care for their brood in a very complete way. At low ambient temperatures they incubate the pupae and regulate the temperature at 35 °C. The question how bees recognize the brood is still unsolved. When two semi-artificial queencells consisting out of natural silk cocoons were offered to a group of 500 hive bees they regularly make a choice and intergrate only one of the two cells into their cluster.

The biological active fraction was extracted from drone pupae with diethylether, purified by HPLC and analyzed by masspectrometry, ¹H-NMR and IR-spectroscopy. Based on these results Glyceryl-1, 2-dioleate-3-palmitate was identified as the main component of this fraction. Synthesized substance (7 µg) offered on a test cocoon released the clustering of the bees around it. Experiments on other substances and a more detailed discussion will be published elsewhere.