

In the following two tables (II and III) our results are compared with the observations of ALPERT and AKRE (1973) on *F. diversipilosus*, and BUSCHINGER and WINTER (1976) on *F. nitidulus*.

Table II. — Numbers and percentages of dealate females, intermorphs, workers and males in collections of *F. hirticornis*, *F. diversipilosus* and *F. nitidulus*.

Tabelle II. — Anteile von entflügelten Weibchen, Intermorphen, Arbeiterinnen und Männchen in Aufsammlungen von *F. hirticornis*, *F. diversipilosus* und *F. nitidulus*.

| | <i>F. hirticornis</i> n | <i>F. diversipilosus</i> (*) % | <i>F. nitidulus</i> n | % |
|-----------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|------|
| Dealate females | 16 | 9,5 | 2,5 | 26 |
| Intermorphs | 16 | 9,5 | 18 | 20,6 |
| Workers | 130 | 77,4 | 76 | 76,8 |
| Males | 6 | 3,6 | 2 | 0 |
| | | | | — |

(*) Numbers not indicated by ALPERT and AKRE (1973).

Although the collections are not ideally comparable, since *F. hirticornis* was collected in August, *F. diversipilosus* over several years from February to August, and *F. nitidulus* during hibernation (the table comprises only our data from southern Germany), the similarity of the polymorphism in this 3 species is surprising.

In table III a comparison is only possible for *F. hirticornis* and *F. nitidulus*, since the *F. diversipilosus* material was not dissected.

Table III. — Numbers and percentages of inseminated, fertile or sterile dealate females and intermorphs in collections of *F. hirticornis* and *F. nitidulus*.

Tabelle III. — Anteile von begatteten, fertilen oder sterilen entflügelten Weibchen und Intermorphen in Aufsammlungen von *F. hirticornis* und *F. nitidulus*.

| | | <i>F. hirticornis</i> n | <i>F. hirticornis</i> % | <i>F. nitidulus</i> n | <i>F. nitidulus</i> % |
|---------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Dealate females | inseminated, fertile | 10 | 31,2 | 6 | 2,6 |
| | inseminated, sterile | 6 | 18,7 | 19 | 8,3 |
| | not inseminated | 0 | 0 | 1 | 0,4 |
| Intermorphs | inseminated, fertile | 4 | 12,5 | 22 | 9,6 |
| | inseminated, sterile | 9 | 28,1 | 148 | 64,6 |
| | not inseminated | 3 | 9,4 | 33 | 14,4 |
| All "potential queens" together | | 32 | 100 | 229 | 100 |

In this table, again, only the results of our study in hibernating *F. nitidulus* from South Germany are considered. There are substantial