

Beneficial Species Profile



Photo Credit: Gerald J. Lenhard, Louisiana State University, Bugwood.org (*Eurytoma tomici*)

Common Name: Chalcid wasps

Scientific Name: *Brachymeria* is the most common genus of chalcid wasp in North America.

Order and Family: Hymenoptera; Chalcidoidea (Superfamily)

Size and Appearance:

| | Length (mm) | Appearance |
|-----------------------------|-------------|---|
| Egg | | Tiny eggs, 60-70 |
| Larva/Nymph | | |
| Adult | .12mm-25mm | Head and thorax of most species are black. Yellow abdomen. All chalcids have enlarged femoral segments. |
| Pupa (if applicable) | | Pupae of most species are red-brown to brown, and elongate in shape. |

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Chewing.

Host/s: Lepidopterans, Hymenopterans, Dipterans.

Description of Benefits (predator, parasitoid, pollinator, etc.): The female typically lays eggs inside the larva of a lepidopteran using its ovipositor. Some chalcids target Hymenoptera and Diptera larvae as well.

References:

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