

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE

How do I know if the silverleaf whiteflies in my crop are parasitised by *Eretmocerus hayati*?

HEALTHY SLW NYMPHS

1. Early juvenile stages are clear with two red eyes
2. Two symmetrical bright yellow mycetomes (specialised organs) at the tail end
3. At late 4th instar nymph changes from clear to a bright yellow with white wing buds appearing just before emergence
4. Developing SLW body fills casing (round with no waist)
5. Exuviae (spent pupal case) is transparent white with exit hole in a T or Y shape as whitefly adults push their way out



Juvenile with red eyes and symmetrical mycetomes



White wing buds appear just before emergence



Body fills casing (no waist)



T or Y shaped exit hole in pupal case

PARASITISED SLW NYMPHS

1. Bright yellow mycetomes lose symmetry as they are displaced by the developing parasitoid
2. Sometimes the semi-circular larva of the developing parasitoid is visible
3. Red or brown faecal waste visible
4. Nymph case is a dull, dirty brown or yellow colour
5. *E.hayati* pupae have a "waist" where body pulls away from casing
6. Nymph case has circular exit hole where adult parasitoid has chewed its way out



Displaced mycetomes



Parasitoid larva



Red/brown faecal waste



Dull brown/yellow nymph case



Body pulling away from casing (waist)



Circular exit hole