







Is age just a number? Investigating the effects of male and female age on the reproduction of *Tenebrio molitor* L.

Andrea Resconi, Christina Adamaki-Sotiraki, Marianna Rigopolou, Laura Gasco, Christos G. Athanassiou

andrea.resconi@unito.it

Experimental design

OVIPOSITION & HATCHABILITY

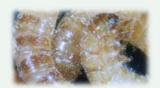














CROSS MATING







4 AGE CLASSES





SURVIVAL









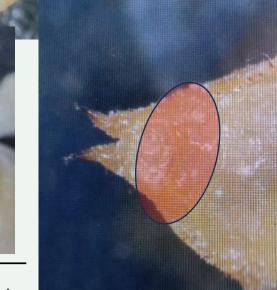








Separation of males and females based on the presence/absence of the pygopods

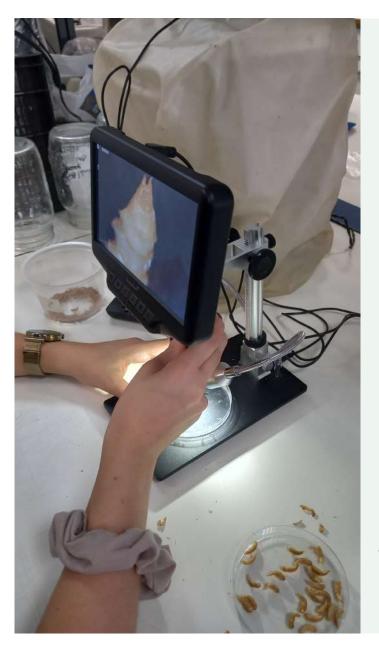


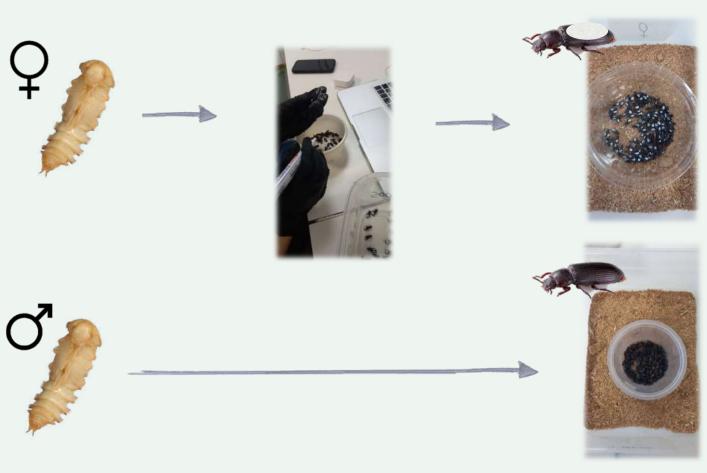


























- 2 WEEKS OLD
- 3 WEEKS OLD
- 4 WEEKS OLD



- 1 WEEK OLD
- 2 WEEKS OLD
- 3 WEEKS OLD
- 4 WEEKS OLD



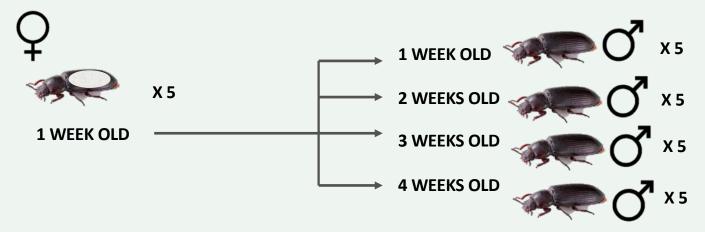












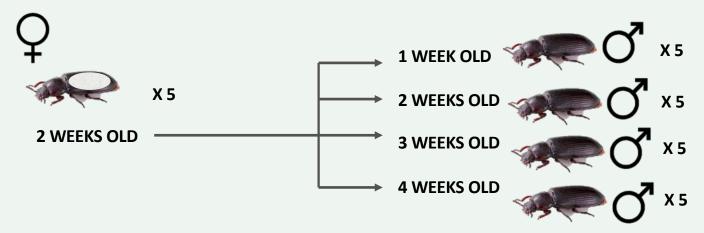












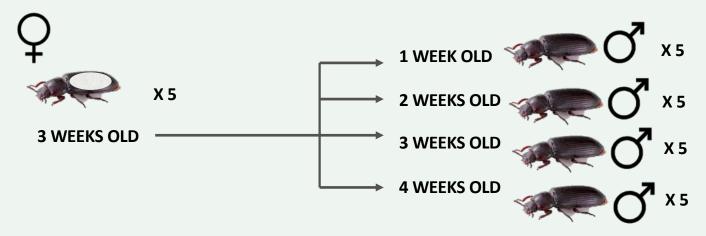












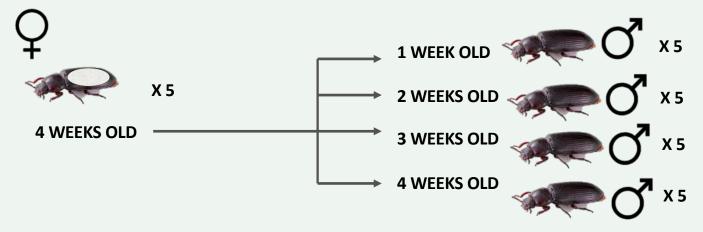












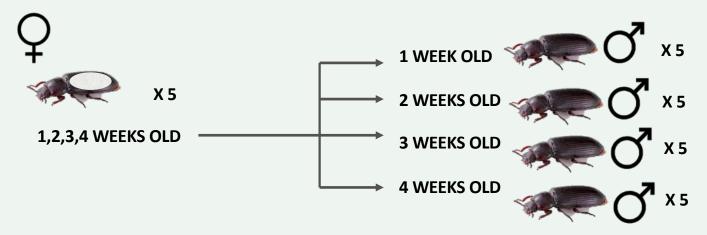
































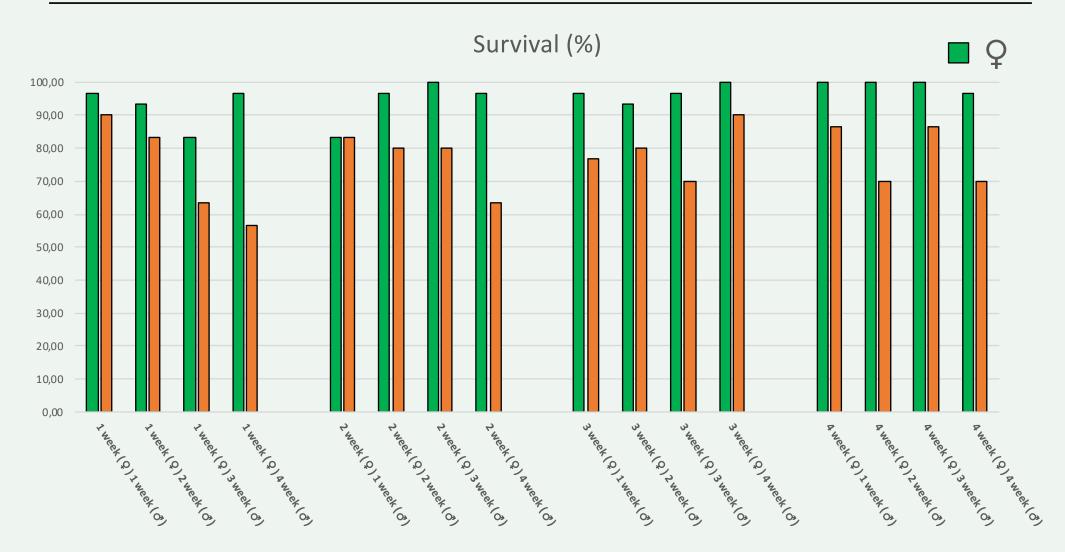


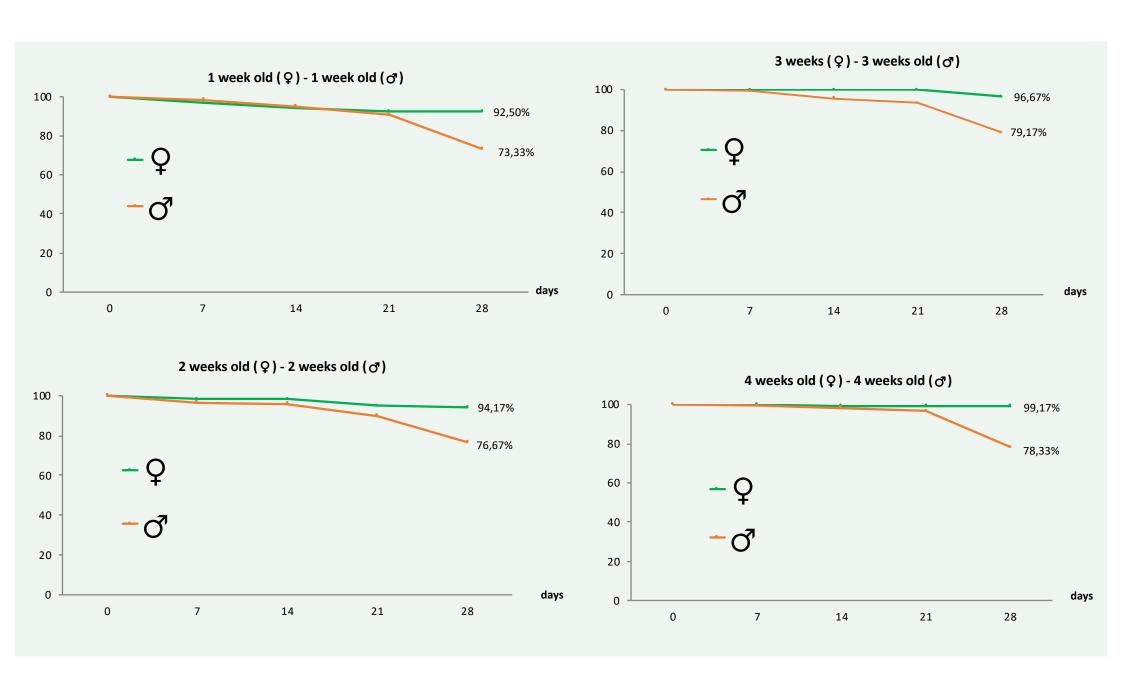














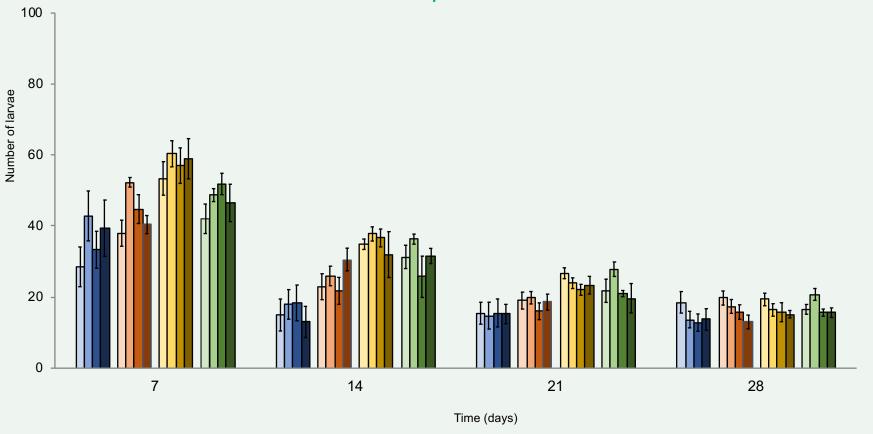








hatched larvae per female over time





□1 week (♀) 1 week (♂)

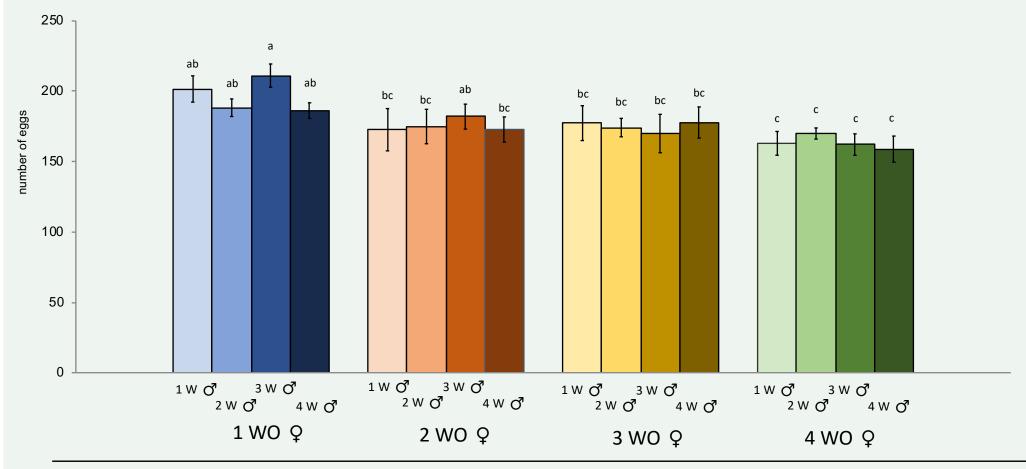








cumulative eggs per female

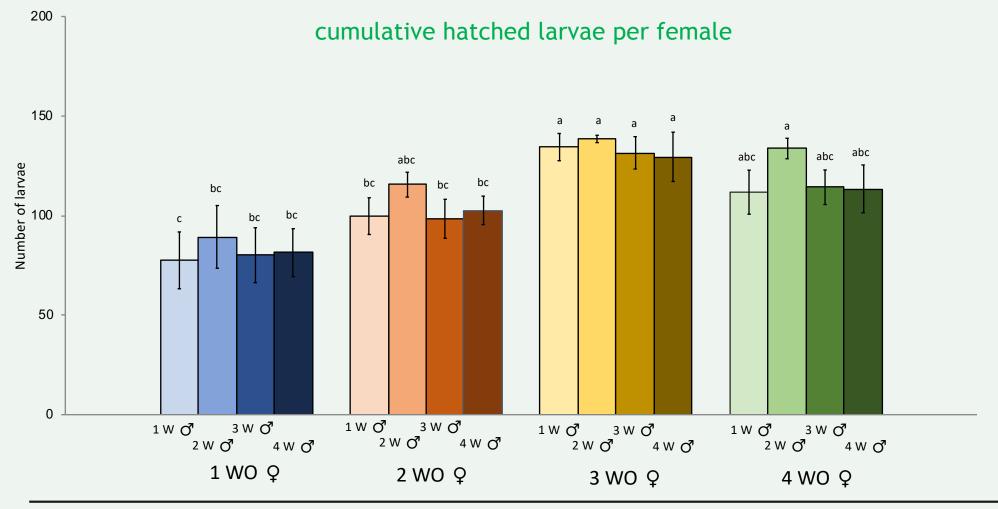




















What next?





Validate results

Diet?
Strain?
Scale?

Industrialisation

How can these results be translated into practical advances?





















Insect-IMP: Improved Knowledge Transfer for Sustainable Insect Breeding