



FACULTY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES & ALLIED INDUSTRIES

ENT -321 Management of Beneficial Insects 2 (1+1)

Lecture-14 Enemies of Lac Insect:

Two types of enemies are found with lac insects

(1) Parasites and

(2) Predators

1. **Parasites:** Parasites are small winged insects belong to family Chalcidae of Hymenoptera. These insects lay their eggs in the lac cells and grubs on hatching devour lac insects inside the cells

2. **Predators:** Three predators are most important

i) Larger white lac moth, *Eublemma amabilis* (Noctuidae: Lepidoptera)

ii) Smaller black lac moth
Holocerca pulverea
(Gelechiidae:

Lepidoptera) Both moths lay eggs on or near the lac encrusted branches. The larvae on hatching bite their way into the lac encrustation and feed on the lac insects and lac encrustations. Both the pests are controlled by a parasite, *Microbracon greeni*

iii) Lac wing, *Chrysopa* sp.
The maggots move about the lac encrustations and feed on the body contents of the lac insects.

