



Diapause

In general terms, diapause is a resting stage when the development process halts at a certain stage to restart either at a certain fixed point in time or when the insect receives a stimulus.

We can talk about an obligate diapause when all the individuals in a generation always enter diapause or a facultative diapause when some members of a generation enter diapause or only those individuals that were stressed enter diapause.

In addition we can distinguish between a diapause and aestivation, where the former term is reserved for an overwintering process, and the latter term denotes a means of surviving adverse conditions during summer or the 'hot season'.

We can also distinguish between quiescence and diapause. Quiescence means a period of inactivity that restarts more or less spontaneously (for instance some insects become quiescent prior to moulting) while diapause is a distinct physiological event, involving extremely slow metabolism and definable stimuli to start and end it.

This web site tells you more about diapause in the context of cultural control.

[Cultural Control](#)