

1 **Characterization of the natural enemy community attacking cotton aphid in the**
2 **Bt cotton ecosystem in northern China**

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Supplementary Information

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26 **Figure Legends**

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28 **Figure S1: Design of surveys in field cages experimental cotton during 2011, 2012**

29 **and 2013.** Design of the three treatments, i.e. natural enemy exclusion degree, in the
30 field study; Exclusion cage: excluded all natural enemies (predators and parasitoid
31 aphids) and fully protected aphids, Restriction cage: prevented predator movement
32 but allowed aphid parasitoids to enter in the cages, Open field cage: allowed free
33 access to the plants for all natural enemies. Three blocks each of 13 m x 15 m (and 2-
34 m buffer surrounding the blocks), among 18 surveyed cages/plots per block (1-m
35 between two plots) and each plot having 10 plants.

36 **Figure S2: Design of surveys in open field cotton during 2011, 2012 and 2013.**

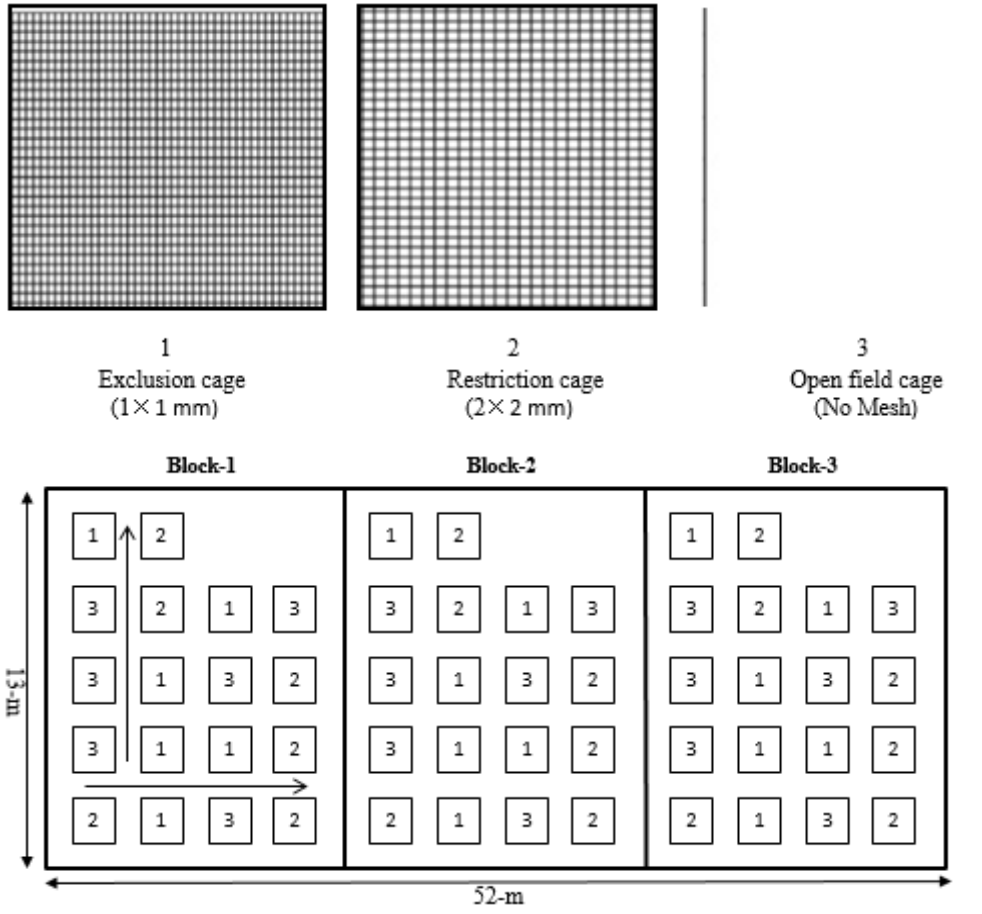
37 Three blocks each of 16 m x 15 m (and 2-m buffer surrounding the blocks), 20
38 surveyed fixed plots per block (1-m between two plots).

39 **Figure S3: Comparison of seasonal mean population density (\pm SEM) of (a) cotton**

40 aphids, (b) coccinellids, (c) chrysopids, (d) anthocorids, (e) spiders and (f) aphid
41 parasitoids (mummies) per 100 plants surveyed during three cotton growth stages; (i)
42 early plant stage (May-June), (ii) middle plant stage (July), and (iii) late plant stage
43 (August- September) from end of May to early September in the open cotton field for
44 three growing seasons; 2011, 2012 and 2013 in Langfang experimental station
45 (Yellow River Region of China). Black = late stage, Gray = middle stage, white =
46 early stage. Lines are SEMs. Means with the same letter across growth stages are not
47 significantly different (Student-Neuman-Keuls means separation test, $\alpha = 0.05$).

48 **Figure S1:**

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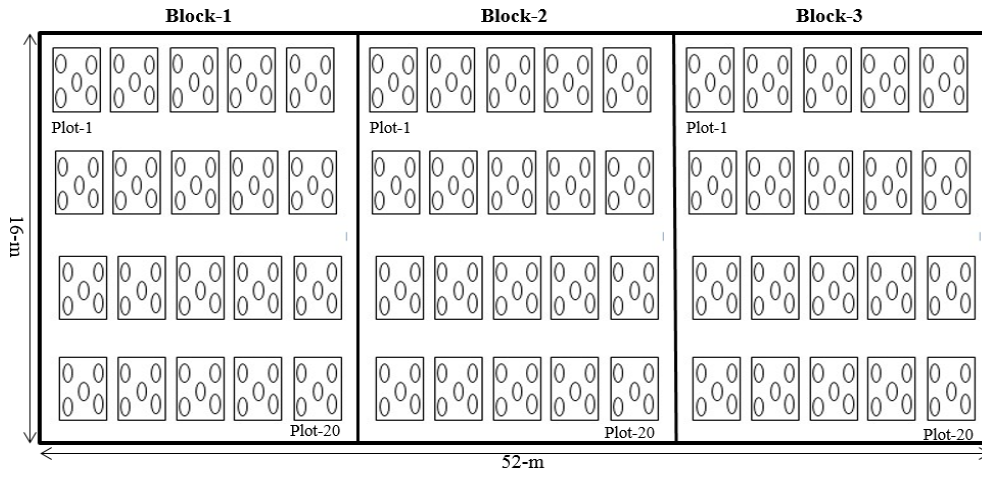


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52 **Figure S2:**

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Figure S3:

