

## SUMMARY

Laboratory studies on the effect of different relative humidities (30, 50, 70 and 95 per cent) at  $26 \pm 1^{\circ}\text{C}$  on the non-parasitic stages of *Anocentor nitens* are described. The increase in humidity reduced the pre-oviposition period, but increased the oviposition period. The egg production of engorged females increased on the higher relative humidities. However, lower humidities (30 and 50 per cent) showed detrimental effects, because eclosion was not observed. The highest hatching rate (98%) was observed for eggs laid at 95 per cent relative humidity, while at 70 per cent relative humidity the rate was lower (58%).

KEY WORDS: *Anocentor nitens*, relative humidity, non-parasitic phase.