

ing forwards. Within a few days after emerging the adults pair and oviposition begins. The eggs (Fig. 2, a) are not all laid at once, but are deposited in clusters of from three to ten or more, usually being laid side by side in a row. The period of oviposition probably extends over two weeks or more, as the adults can live seven weeks, though most of them die within a month. One female was dissected; she contained over eighty eggs, which is probably about the average. When first laid the egg-shell is quite soft and readily flattens upon contact with other eggs, or the leaf upon which it is laid, so that it is usually flattened upon several sides to a greater or less degree. At first the egg is a pearly white, but it gradually turns to a slate colour.

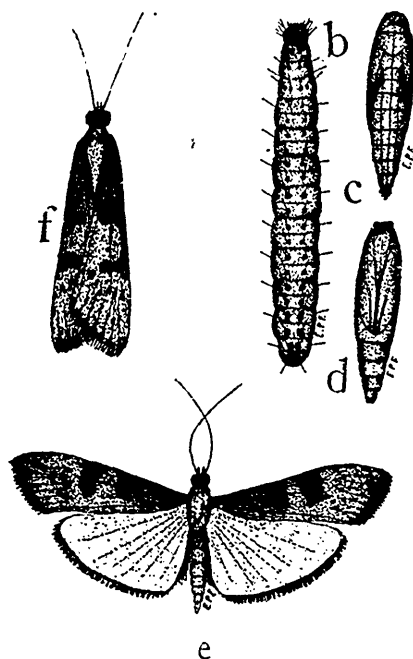


FIG. 1.

*Nomophila noctuella*: b, larva; c, pupa (dorsal aspect); d, pupa (ventral aspect); e, adult; f, adult (at rest). (All these figures are twice the natural size.)

The eggs hatch in about ten days, and the larva begins to feed upon the soft parenchyma of the leaf. The young larva has a brownish head and a straw coloured body, the tubercles are very small and the hairs longer proportionally than in the full grown larva. About a week after