

***Otiorhynchus armadillo* (Rossi, 1792) (Coleoptera, Curculioidae), a weevil new to Norway**

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The first record of the weevil *Otiorhynchus armadillo* (Rossi, 1792) (Coleoptera, Curculioidae) from Norway is given. The biology and geographical distribution is commented on.

Key words: *Otiorhynchus armadillo*, alien species, Coleoptera, Curculioidae, Norway.

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Introduction

Many *Otiorhynchus* species can cause serious damage to a lot of plants and reach large numbers in quite a short time, e.g. *O. sulcatus* (Fabricius, 1775) in strawberry fields and horticultural plants. The adults often feed on the foliage of different host plants making round cuts along the leaf edge (Figure 1), while the larvae feed on the roots. *Otiorhynchus* species are an economical threat to farmers and producers of plants who use lots of resources every year preventing the damage of weevils. Several pest species are expanding their prevalence and reports from the Netherlands and Denmark estimate *Otiorhynchus* sp. as an increasing problem as the trade of plants becomes more extensive. *O. armadillo* is 7–12mm long. It is dark with yellow shells on the elytra. For a detailed description of the species, see Barclay (2003).

Records

The first record in Norway was done close to a plant nursery at Kvakestad (AK, Ski EIS 28, UTM 32VN6623786 E603410), 12 August 2008. Several specimens were found feeding on leaves of birch (*Betula* sp.). On 3 July 2009 the species

was recorded again at the same location, indicating that the species had managed to overwinter and establish.

Discussion

O. armadillo is known from 10 countries in Europe (Alonso-Zarazaga 2007), but it is probably more widespread due to trade of plants. From Sweden, it was recorded from a plant nursery in Stockholm in 1995 (Borisch 1997). The first specimen from Great Britain was recorded in 1998 near a store that sold imported plants in London. The most plausible explanation for its arrival in Britain is therefore through imported plants that was already infested with larvae and pupae at the time of delivery/import. Another specimen was taken in Edinburgh in 2000 (Barcaly 2003). Like many other *Otiorhynchus* species, *O. armadillo* is polyphagous and seems to be associated with a lot of host plants among the popular horticultural plants. Barclay (2003) gives a detailed list of identified host plants in Great Britain and Heijerman & Hellingman (2008) reports damage by this species on several plants in the Netherlands (Table 1). The import of horticultural plants seems to be the most effective way for the weevils to reach new areas as many



Figure 1. *Otiorhynchus armadillo* (Rossi, 1792) feeding on leaf of young *Betula* sp. trees. Photo: Arnstein Staverløkk.

of them lack the ability to fly. The horticultural plants are often imported with soil that gives all life stages of the weevils ability to come as stowaway. Several species of *Otiorhynchus* are parthenogenetic which increases the possibility of establishment on their first arrivals.

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References

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Table 1. List of hostplants of *Otiorhynchus armadillo* (Rossi, 1792) reported from the Netherlands and UK by Barclay (2003) and Heijerman & Hellingman (2008)

Family	Species	Country
Caprifoliaceae	<i>Viburnum</i> sp.	The Netherlands
Caprifoliaceae	<i>Viburnum davidii</i> Franch	UK
Caprifoliaceae	<i>Virburnum tinus</i> L.	UK
Rosaceae	<i>Sorbus hupehensis</i> C.K.Schneid.	UK
Rosaceae	<i>Prunus laurocerasus</i> L.	UK
Rosaceae	<i>Cotoneaster</i> spp.	UK
Rosaceae	<i>Pyracantha coccinea</i> M. Roemer	UK
Rosaceae	<i>Crataegus</i> sp.	The Netherlands
Ericaceae	<i>Rhododendron</i> sp.	The Netherlands
Betulaceae	<i>Carpinus betulus</i> L.	The Netherlands
Hydrangeaceae	<i>Hydrangea opuloides</i> (Lam.) K. Koch	The Netherlands
Oleaceae	<i>Olea europea</i> L.	The Netherlands
Oleaceae	<i>Ligustrum</i> sp.	The Netherlands
Liliaceae	<i>Lilium</i> sp.	The Netherlands
Ranunculaceae	<i>Clematis</i> sp.	The Netherlands
Caprifoliaceae	<i>Lonicera</i> sp.	The Netherlands
Asteraceae	<i>Dahlia</i> sp.	The Netherlands
Celastraceae	<i>Euonymus fortunei</i> (Turcz.) Hand.-Maz.	UK
Saxifragaceae	<i>Bergenia</i> sp.	UK
Polygonaceae	<i>Muehlenbeckia</i> sp.	UK
Aquifoliaceae	<i>Ilex aquifolium</i> L..	UK, The Netherlands
Araliaceae	<i>Hedera helix</i> L.	UK, The Netherlands
Lauraceae	<i>Laurus nobilis</i> L.	UK
Lamiaceae	<i>Clinopodium</i> sp.	UK
Lamiaceae	<i>Salvia</i> sp.	The Netherlands

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XXVIII Nordic-Baltic Congress of Entomology **Birstonas, Lithuania** 2–7 August 2010

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The Congress is organised by the Lithuanian Entomological Society.

All Nordic and Baltic scientists and students, also our colleagues from other countries doing research in entomology are heartily welcomed to the Congress. Besides insects, the congress covers also other terrestrial arthropods: mites, arachnids, etc. Plenary session, sections, poster presentation and excursions will be organised.

Submission of abstracts: June 1st, 2010. Abstracts will be required for all presentations, including posters.

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