

The first European records of the arborvitae weevil *Phyllobius intrusus* Kono, 1948 (Coleoptera, Curculionidae) in Norway

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The arborvitae weevil *Phyllobius intrusus* is reported for the first time from Europe and the Western Palearctic region. Two specimens were collected at two different sites near Kristiansand in Norway. The species originate from Japan, but is widely distributed in the US and in Canada due to introduction with the host plants, *Thuja* spp. A short description of the species and illustrations of habitus and male genitalia are presented. A further dispersal and establishment elsewhere in Europe is expected as a result of the massive trade with *Thuja*-trees.

Key words: alien species, Curculionoidea, introduced species, Norway, *Phyllobius intrusus*, weevils, identification

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Introduction

The weevil genus *Phyllobius* belongs to the broad-nosed weevils (Curculionidae, Entiminae), and is well known among entomologists and nature enthusiasts as many species are brightly green metallic colored, and commonly occur on foliage of broadleaved trees and shrubs throughout our region. The genus *Phyllobius* is of Palearctic origin and includes about 130 species of which more than 80 are known from the Western Palearctic region (Pesarini 1981). Only ten species are hitherto known from Fennoscandia (Silfverberg 2004).

P. intrusus originate from Japan (O'Brian & Wibmer 1982, Masahiro et al. 2000), but was described from Rhode Island (Kono 1948) after the species was introduced and established at the eastern coast of the US. Later, it has been recorded from the western coast of the US (Anonymous 1994), and in Canada (Cote & Bright 1995). The present paper reports the first records of *P.*

intrusus from the Western Palearctic region based on specimens from Norway.

The records

Two specimens were collected at two different sites near Kristiansand in Norway, EIS 2, VAY, Kristiansand: Nedre Timenes, 32V Ø0447063 N6447049, 18 June 2009, one male beaten from hazel shrub (*Corylus avellana*), leg. K. Berggren & F. Ødegaard; Bråvann, 32V Ø0437202 N6441482, July 2009, one male on black light, leg. K. Berggren.

The species

P. intrusus is placed in the subgenus *Metaphyllobius* Smirnov, 1913 (Pesarini 1981). The species is neither described in the review of the