

Mini data sheet on *Echinothrips americanus*

Added in 1995 - Deleted in 2000

Reasons for deletion:

There has been little evidence of significant damage of *Echinothrips americanus* in countries where it has been found. In 2000, it was therefore considered that it did not fulfil the categorization criteria of a quarantine pest and that sufficient alert had been given.

Echinothrips americanus (Thysanoptera, Thripidae)

Why	<i>E. americanus</i> came to our attention because it was introduced into Europe in 1993. In many cases, measures (eradication and surveys have been taken).
Where	Found in the Netherlands in 1993 on ornamentals under glasshouse. Observed in Germany on <i>Syngonium</i> in 1995. Intercepted by UK on ornamentals from Netherlands in 1995/96. Found in France in 1996. Found in Italy (autumn 1998, in a glasshouse in Piemonte on imported plants (according to the EPPO Panel on Phytosanitary Regulations) - in spring 1999, in glasshouses in Emilia-Romagna), in UK, in Czech Republic (in February 1998, in South Bohemia (according to the EPPO Panel on Phytosanitary Regulations)). Considered as a pest in North America. It occurs in Bermuda, Canada (south), Mexico, USA (most of the eastern states).
On which plants	Many ornamentals: <i>Dieffenbachia</i> , <i>Ficus</i> , <i>Hibiscus</i> , <i>Impatiens</i> , <i>Homalomena</i> , <i>Philodendron</i> , <i>Syngonium</i> , etc. Araceae and Balsaminaceae are particularly attractive.
Damage	It feeds on leaf tissue and damage is very similar to that caused by mites, with light spots on the leaves. It can feed on flower parts.
Pathway	Glasshouse ornamentals plants for planting (cut flowers?) (in particular Araceae and Balsaminaceae) from infested countries in America and Europe.
Possible risks	Polyphagous species, likely to be easily spread (unnoticed) with plants. As other thrips, probably difficult to control in practice. A definite risk to glasshouse ornamentals.
Source(s)	NPPO of Netherlands (1993), NPPO of UK (1995, 1996). Insect and related pests of flowers and foliage plants. Some important, common and potential pests in the southeastern United States. Edited by Baker, J.R. (1994) North Carolina cooperative Extension Service, US, 106 pp. Marullo, R.; Pollini, A. (1999) <i>Echinothrips americanus</i> , a new pest of the Italian greenhouses. <i>Informatore fitopatologico</i> , no. 6, 61-64. Reynaud, P. (1998) <i>Echinothrips americanus</i> . Un nouveau thrips des serres importé en France. <i>Phytoma - La Défense des Végétaux</i> , no. 507, 36-38.
EPPO RS 95/093, 95/175, 96/060, 98/143, 98/180, 99/120	
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