

This short description was prepared in the framework of the EU FP7 project DROPSA - Strategies to develop effective, innovative and practical approaches to protect major European fruit crops from pests and pathogens (grant agreement no. 613678). This pest was listed in the DROPSA alert list for orange and mandarin fruit.

**Deudorix isocrates (Lepidoptera: Lycaenidae)**

**Location of life stages on plant parts:** on pomegranate, eggs on flower or young fruit, larvae bore into fruit (Zalom et al., 2009); The caterpillars bore into ripening fruits, feed on the seeds (NBAIR, 2016). This seems to also apply to citrus.

**Fruit pathway:** yes.

**Other pathways:** plants for planting.

**Hosts:** *Punica granatum* (Zalom et al., 2009) is the main host. Others include *Citrus*, *Citrus sinensis*, *Citrus reticulata*, *Citrus deliciosa*, *Embllica officinalis*, *Psidium guava*, *Cleistanthus collinus*, *Sapindus* (CABI CPC and abstracts), *Tamarindus*, *Manilkara zapota* (NBAIR, 2016).

**Distribution:** Asia: Bangladesh, India (CABI CPC), Sri Lanka (Bambaradenya, 2006; Zalom et al., 2009).

**Damage:** *D. isocrates* causes direct damage to fruit. Affected fruit rot and drop. The holes are often plugged by the anal segment of the caterpillar or its excreta are seen on infested fruits (NBAIR, 2016). This information seems to apply to all fruits mentioned, including citrus, but specific data on impact was found only for pomegranate. *D. isocrates* and *D. epijarbas* are important pests of pomegranate in East Asia, especially in the Indian peninsula; they may cause loss of entire crops unless the flowers are sprayed (Holland et al., 2009). Infestation on pomegranate may cause losses up to 50 % of the fruit (<http://agropedia.iitk.ac.in/content/pomegranate-fruit-borer>).

**Other information:** The synonym *Virachola isocrates* is used in NBAIR (2016) and Bambaradenya (2006).

<b>Recorded impact:</b> High (on another crop, uncertain)	<b>Intercepted:</b> Not known	<b>Spreading/invasive:</b> Not known
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**References:**

- Bambaradenya CNB (editor). 2006. The fauna of Sri Lanka; status of taxonomy, research and conservation. The World Conservation Union, Colombo, Sri Lanka and Government of Sri Lanka.
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- Holland D, Hatib K, Bar-Ya'akov I. Pomegranate: Botany, Horticulture, Breeding. Horticultural Reviews, Volume 35, 127-191.
- NBAIR. 2016. *Virachola isocrates* (Fabricius) (=Deudorix isocrates (Fabricius)). ICAR-National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources (India). <http://www.nbair.res.in/insectpests/Virachola-isocrates.php>.
- Zalom F, Symmes E, Henderson M, Bell M. 2009. Pomegranate pest – fruit borer. Afghan Agriculture, UC Davis, 2011. [http://afghanag.ucdavis.edu/a\\_horticulture/fruits-trees/pomegranate/pomegranate-fact-sheets/FS\\_Insect\\_Pomegranate\\_Fruit\\_Borer.doc/view](http://afghanag.ucdavis.edu/a_horticulture/fruits-trees/pomegranate/pomegranate-fact-sheets/FS_Insect_Pomegranate_Fruit_Borer.doc/view)