

Taxonomic studies have concluded that *Aeolesthes sarta* should be transferred to the genus *Trirachys*, and thus called *Trirachys sartus* (Vitali *et al.*, 2017). The pest is now listed under this name on the EPPO A2 List.

Report of a Pest Risk Assessment

This summary presents the main features of a pest risk assessment which has been conducted on the pest, according to EPPO Standard PP 5/3(1) Pest Risk Assessment Scheme.

Pest: *Aeolesthes sarta*
PRA area: The European and Mediterranean part of the EPPO region
Assessor: EPPO Secretariat and the Panel on Quarantine Pests for Forestry
Date: March, 2001

1. INITIATION

1.1 Reason for doing PRA: Study of the risk of forest pests occurring on the territory of the former USSR for the western part of EPPO region
1.2. Taxonomic position of pest: *Aeolesthes sarta* Solsky (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae)

2. PROBABILITY OF INTRODUCTION

2.1 Entry

2.1.1 Geographical distribution: Absent in EPPO region
Originates in Pakistan and Western India
Europe: Absent
Asia: India (Western Himalayas), Pakistan (north), Afghanistan, Iran, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Kyrgyzstan (south)
North America: Absent
Central America & Caribbean: Absent
South America: Absent
Oceania: Absent

2.1.2 Major host plants: Many species of *Ulmus*, *Populus*, *Salix*, *Platanus*, *Malus*, *Prunus*, *Pyrus*, *Juglans*, *Quercus*, *Betula*, *Fraxinus*, *Acer*, *Morus*, *Gleditsia*, *Robinia*, *Elaeagnus* and many other hardwoods and fruit trees. Its preferred hosts are: *Ulmus minor*, *Ulmus pumila*, *Populus diversifolia*, *Populus euphratica*, *Populus talassica*, *Populus alba*, *Populus X euroamericana*, *Salix acmophylla*, *Salix turanica*, *Salix aongarica*, *Platanus*

orientalis, *Platanus acerifolia*, *Malus pumila* and *Juglans regia*

- 2.1.3 Which pathway(s) is the pest likely to be introduced on:** *A. sarta* is associated with wood, either as eggs or early instar larvae under bark or as late stage larvae, pupae or adults within the wood itself. *A. sarta* is unlikely to be transported in planting material or cut branches since the species does not attack the small branches or trunks, but adults may be resting on the surface of such material.
- In decreasing order of risk, main pathways for *A. sarta* may be:
1. Dunnage and packing material
 2. Untreated wood with bark
 3. Host plants for planting and cut branches
 4. Untreated wood without bark

2.2 Establishment

- 2.2.1 Crops at risk in the PRA area:** All species of *Ulmus*, *Populus*, *Salix*, *Platanus*, *Malus*, *Prunus*, *Pyrus*, *Juglans*, *Quercus*, *Betula*, *Fraxinus*, *Acer*, *Morus*, *Gleditsia*, *Robinia*, *Elaeagnus* and many other hardwoods and fruit trees. The biggest risk exists for city plantations, mountain forests and apple orchards.

- 2.2.2 Climatic similarity of present distribution with PRA area (or parts thereof):** South of the EPPO region has a similar climatic conditions (hot and dry) with the area of origin and present distribution of the pest

- 2.2.3 Aspects of the pest's biology that would favour establishment:** The pest is polyphagous and genetically adaptable

- 2.2.4 Characteristics (other than climatic) of the PRA area that would favour establishment:** Host plants are widely distributed within the PRA area. Suitable ecological niches are available throughout the PRA area.

- 2.2.5 Which part of the PRA area is the endangered area:** The endangered part of the PRA area covers primarily the Mediterranean region (Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Cyprus, southern France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey) as well as some other southern countries (Bulgaria, Romania, etc.).

3. ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 3.1 Describe damage to potential hosts in PRA area:** *A. sarta* attacks both stressed and healthy trees of different ages leading to their death.

- 3.2 How much economic impact does the pest have in its present distribution:** *A. sarta* is one of the most important pests of many forest, ornamental and fruit deciduous trees in the region of its present distribution. Its effects can also be environmental (in destroying natural forests) and social (in destroying large trees in towns).

- 3.3 How much economic impact would the pest have in the PRA** Considering the similarity of ecological conditions, the damage in the endangered part of the PRA area could be similar to that

area: in the present area of the pest.

4. CONCLUSIONS OF PRA

4.1 Summarize the major factors that influence the acceptability of the risk from this pest:

This pest

- comes from an area with similar climatic conditions to the a part of the PRA area and causes serious economic damage there;
- could easily establish throughout a part of PRA area;
- is the pest of many hardwoods and fruit trees which are important in the PRA area;
- can cause also serious environmental and social damage.

4.2 Estimate the probability of entry:

high with dunnage and packing material (6.1), medium for other pathways (5.0 for wood with bark, 4.0 for plants for planting and cut branches, 3.9 for wood without bark)

4.3 Estimate the probability of establishment:

high (6.3)

4.4 Estimate the potential economic impact:

medium (4.42)

4.5 Degree of uncertainty

There is little uncertainty in this assessment

5. OVERALL CONCLUSIONS OF THE ASSESSOR

The endangered area is primarily the Mediterranean region (Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Cyprus, France (South), Greece, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Malta, Morocco, Portugal, Slovenia, Spain, Tunisia, Turkey,) as well as some other southern countries (Bulgaria, Romania, etc.). Its impact within the endangered area would be the direct damage to plantations of *Populus*, *Ulmus*, *Platanus*, fruit and other trees, environmental damage to natural forests, and social damage to trees in towns. *A. sarta* is absent in the EPPO region. Phytosanitary measures could prevent its introduction into the endangered area.

A. sarta should be included into the A1 EPPO list.