

Stenopelmus rufinasus (Coleoptera: Curculionidae)

Included in: PM 6/3 Biological control agents safely used in the EPPO region (2025): Appendix 1 – Commercially or officially used biological control agents

Further details are given for each BCA, including its preferred scientific name, common synonyms, taxonomic classification, the pests against which it is mostly targeted, its origin and the date of first use as a commercial agent. In cases where information is not known a (?) is detailed. Countries where it is or has been used in the EPPO region are also listed on the basis of information provided by the companies and by some EPPO countries. This information may not have been available from all EPPO countries and may therefore be incomplete. Each agent has been used commercially at some time in the countries listed, but in some cases may no longer be commercially available or used there. Information is also given, when available, on the natural distribution of the agent in the EPPO region, whether it is used in the field and/or under protected conditions. Additional remarks are included when necessary.

Detailed information (from PM 6/3 Biological control agents safely used in the EPPO region: EPPO, 2021 (2026 version))

Stenopelmus rufinasus

Family	Curculionidae
Main target pests	<i>Azolla filiculoides</i>
Original distribution	North America
Distribution in EPPO	Belgium, Germany, Spain, France, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Netherlands, Hungary, Portugal, Poland, Slovakia, Serbia, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Russian Federation
Date of first use	Mid-2000s
EPPO countries where used	Netherlands, United Kingdom
Use	Outdoors

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Criteria used for adding *Stenopelmus rufinasus* to PM 6/3 Biological control agents safely used in the EPPO region (Appendix 1)

1. Criteria used for addition to the List

A biological control agent which is (or has been) commercially available or officially used	☒
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AND either

Has been used for at least 5 years in at least 5 EPPO countries (exceptionally fewer, if relevant crops, target pests or plants are present in <5 countries), or	☐
Is indigenous and widespread in part of, or the whole of EPPO region, or	☐
Is established and widespread in part of, or the whole of the EPPO region	☒

AND

There are no previous reports of adverse effects	☒
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* Mark the check box for the criteria that applies to the BCA

Criteria	Summary information (for EPPO region*)	References
BCA has been used for at least 5 years in at least 5 EPPO countries (exceptionally fewer, if relevant crops, target pests or plants are present in less than 5 countries)		
Is indigenous and widespread in part of, or the whole of EPPO region		
Is established and widespread in part of, or the whole of the EPPO region	The current list of countries within the EPPO region in which <i>S. rufinasus</i> is naturalised includes: Belgium, Germany, Spain, France, Great Britain (England, Wales and Scotland), Ireland, Northern Ireland, Italy, Netherlands, Hungary, Portugal, Poland, Slovakia, Serbia, Ukraine and Russia	(Carrapiço et al., 2011; GBIF, n.d.; Sauvard et al., 2010; Wanat, 2018; Winston et al., 2025;

* e.g. date of release, country of release, country where BCA is indigenous

References

Carrapiço, F., Santos, R., Serrano, A., 2011. First Occurrence of *Stenopelmus rufinasus* Gyllenhal, 1835 (Coleoptera: Erirhinidae) in Portugal. Coleopt. Bull. 65, 436–437.

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GBIF, n.d. *Stenopelmus rufinus* Gyllenhal, 1835 [WWW Document]. URL <https://www.gbif.org/species/1247584> (accessed 6.26.25).

Sauvard, D., Branco, M., Branco, M., Lakatos, F., Faccoli, M., Faccoli, M., Kirkendall, L., Kirkendall, L., 2010. Weevils and Bark Beetles (Coleoptera, Curculionoidea). Chapter 8.2. *BioRisk* 4, 219–266. <https://doi.org/10.3897/biorisk.4.64>

Wanat, M., 2018. First record of *Stenopelmus rufinus* Gyllenhal, 1835 (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) from Poland. *Pol. J. Entomol.* 87, 65–75. <https://doi.org/10.2478/pjen-2018-0005>

Winston, R.L., Day, M.D., Schwarzlander, M., Hinz, H.L., Cock, M.J.W., Julien, M.H., 2025. World Weed Biocontrol Catalog - iBiocontrol [WWW Document]. URL <https://ibiocontrol.org/tools/catalog/> (accessed 6.26.25).