Spodoptera ornithogalli (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae)

This short description has been prepared in the framework of the EPPO Study on Pest Risks Associated with the Import of Tomato Fruit. The whole study can be retrieved from the EPPO website.

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Africa Asia	Oceania	North America	South-Central America and Caribbean
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Spodoptera ornithogalli (Lepidoptera: Noctuidae) (yellow-striped armyworm)

Why Identified in the EPPO tomato study. This pest is highly polyphagous on a wide range of

field and vegetable crops.

Where EPPO region: Absent. CABI CPC includes a record for Denmark, considered here as

doubtful (according to web, this record originates from Karsholt (1994) and Karsholt & Nielsen (2013), but *S. ornithogalli* is considered as not established on the site

 $http:\!/\!/allearter\text{-}databasen.dk/index.php?taksonomi = Spodoptera + ornithogalli)$

North America: Canada, USA (East to Rocky mountains (north to southern Canada), and all southern USA, incl. California – Capinera, 2005), Mexico (King and Saunders, 1984;

Bugguide, 2009, Troubridge and Lafontaine, ND)

Central America: Honduras? (CABI CPC) Nicaragua, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Central

America (King and Saunders, 1984) Mexico to Brazil (Bugguide, 2009)

Caribbean: West Indies (Bugguide, 2009)

South America: Brazil? (CABI CPC) Uruguay (Biezancko et al., 2007), Brazil (Bugguide,

2009)

Climatic similarity High. 13 common climates considering the countries listed above. However, in the USA it

is considered to be a pest only in southern States, corresponding to a lower number of climates. It is not known if it also overwinters in the northern part of its distribution, or

migrate northwards, as S. praefica

On which plants Highly polyphagous on a wide range of plants, including tomato, Allium, Arachis

hypogaea, Brassicaceae, Capsicum annuum, Cucurbitaceae, Gossypium, Ipomoea batatas, Manihot esculenta (cassava), Oryza sativa (rice), Phaseolus (beans), Solanum tuberosum, Zea mays (maize) (CABI CPC), also in Biezancko et al. (2007), asparagus, Glycine max, Helianthus annuus, Linum usitatissimum, Medicago sativa, Nicotiana alata and N. tabacum, Pisum sativum, Solanum melongena. Beet, cabbage, cantaloupe, carrot, cucumber, lettuce, onion, pea, rhubarb, rutabaga, salsify, turnip, watermelon, blackberry, clover, grape, lentil, peach, rape, raspberry, sorghum, soybean, sugarbeet, sweet clover,

sunflower, wheat, and several flower crops and weeds (Capinera, 2005).

Damage Eggs are on leaves. Larvae feed on leaves, but also on fruit of plants such as tomato,

pepper, cotton; pupae are in the soil (Bessin, ND; Capinera, 2005). *S. ornithogalli* is mentioned amongst major pest of economic importance for tomato for North America by Berlinger (1987). In the USA, it is a pest mostly in the southern States (Capinera, 2005). In Kentucky it is recorded as a pest on vegetables (including greens, tomatoes, peppers, beans,

cucurbits, cole) as well as tobacco, soybean, maize, alfalfa.

Dissemination Adults fly.

Sources

Pathway Fruits and vegetables, plants for planting, cut flowers of host plants, soil, from countries

where S. ornithogalli occurs.

Possible risks S. ornithogalli has many hosts that are major crops in the EPPO region. The climatic

similarity according to the EPPO Study between the area where it occurs and the EPPO region is high (although its northern limit of overwintering is uncertain). To establish in the

EPPO region, the pest would have to enter in an area where it can overwinter.

Categorization Eastern Africa A1 2001, Southern Africa A1 2001 (from PQR); Quarantine pest for Guinea

2009 (for cotton, tomato), Japan 2011, Korea Rep 2011 (from the IPP)

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CABI CPC, 2013

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PQR

Quarantine lists for Guinea 2009 (for cotton, tomato), Japan 2011, Korea Rep 2011 (from the IPP)

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