**Dendroctonus valens**

**Common name**

*Dendroctonus rhizophagus*, Thomas & Bright  
*Dendroctonus beckeri*, Thatcher

**Synonym**

*Dendroctonus beckeri*, *Dendroctonus terebrans*, *Ips emarginatus*,  
*Ips mexicanus*, *Ips paraconfusus*, *Ips pini*, *Ips plastographus*

**Similar species**

Timber imports into China in the 1980s probably translocated the North American pest *Dendroctonus valens* (red turpentine beetle) into the country. It has since established itself vast tracts of ecologically and economically valuable pine forest in northern China, threatening reforestation and forest protection programmes in the country. The Chinese State Forestry Administration ranks the red turpentine bark beetle as the second most important national forest pest.

[view this species on IUCN Red List](http://www.iucngisd.org/gisd/species.php?sc=1405) [Accessed 04 June 2020]
Species Description

The 1 mm long eggs of *Dendroctonus valens* are white, shiny and ovoid cylindrical in shape. The grub-like legless larvae are off-white with a brown head capsule and hind end. Small, pale-brown tubercles are evident in rows along each side of the body. The larva grows to a length of up to 12 mm. The pupae are slightly shorter than the larva and white. They develop into a beetle about the size of a grain of rice. At first the beetle is tan and is called a callow adult. It then rapidly darkens to a reddish brown (Smith 1971). The red turpentine beetle's color is similar to that of bark giving it good camouflage (Yan et al. 2005).

Bark beetles have strong mandibles for chewing; antennae are elbowed with the outer segments enlarged and club-like; when viewed from above, the head is partly or completely hidden by the pronotum (Seybold Paine & Dreistadt 2008). The pronotum is the upper surface of the prothorax; the shape of the pronotum is often important in identification of beetles.

Identification: Pitch Tubes & Frass (Smith 1971; Randall 2006; Seybold, Paine & Dreistadt 2008): Beetle mining activity produces a mix of resin and sawdust-like frass. This mass of congealed resin oozes out of the boring hole and forms what is known as a pitch tube on the bole of the tree. These are usually found up to a height of two or three meters above the ground. Pitch tubes vary in size, texture and color, depending on the kind of tree and the relative amounts of bark borings and frass embedded in the resin. The resin is usually white to yellow and the borings are red. The pitch tube may vary in colour from white to light pink to reddish brown. The pitch tube may be as large as 5 cm in diameter. On fir or spruce, which produce little resin, pitch tubes are small or absent, but pitch pellets may be found on the ground at the tree base in the form of small white granules. Frass accumulates in bark crevices or drops to the ground or into spider webs. Small emergence holes in bark indicate the possibility of bark beetles. Bark should be removed to inspect signs of dead and degraded inner bark and new adult beetles that have not emerged. Red turpentine beetles usually pack their egg-laying galleries with granular, reddish, pitchy borings or frass (whereas engraver beetles maintain clean open galleries). Galleries vary from 13 mm to 25 mm in diameter and from a few centimeters to a meter or more in length and are generally vertical. Stressed trees often exhibit crown symptoms which are usually the direct result of associated attacks by other bark beetles. Symptoms include: shorter needles, poor needle retention resulting in tufts of foliage, a thin crown, off-color chlorotic foliage fading to yellow or sorrel/copper-red, slow height growth and/or dead or dying branches.

Notes

In parts of China where temperatures reach below -18 degrees C *Dendroctonus valens* may survive over-winter in pine roots (but not tree boles) (Wu et al. 2002, in Yan et al. 2005); this may be an important survival strategy of the beetle in Chinese forests (Miao et al. 2001, Wu et al. 2002, in Yan et al. 2005).
Lifecycle Stages

The rate of development of *Dendroctonus valens* is largely dependent on temperature (Smith 1971). In most areas there is at least one generation of *D. valens* per year. In southern areas at low elevations, there may be as many as three per year (Smith 1971, Vite et al. 1964, Zhang et al. 2002, in Yan et al. 2005; Randall 2006). In northern areas and at high elevations, two years may be required for one generation (Randall 2006). For a time-line of red turpentine beetle showing the overlap in life stages please see Randall 2006. *Red Turpentine Beetle Ecology and Management. Forest Health Protection and State Forestry Organizations* (pg 2).

The following description of life cycle stages is primarily from Smith (1971):

**Adult colonisation:** In spring beetles locate suitable plant host by detecting chemicals such as ethanol, monoterpenes (eg: alpha pinene and beta pinene) and pheromones (Byers 1995, LUBIES 2004). The female bores a hole in the bole of the tree and is soon joined by a male. Resin and frass pitch tube are formed on the bark or drop to the ground in pellets. Boring may exceed 2.5cm per day and the gallery may be extended to the larger roots. One or two pairs of beetles may be found per gallery. Beetles remain in their pine for several months, enlarging their galleries laterally.

**Egg stage:** 2 weeks in California, USA 1 to 2 weeks in China (Yan et al. 2005). The female red turpentine beetle oviposits (lays its eggs) within the phloem of trees or fresh stumps. Eggs are laid in an elongate mass along the side of the gallery.

**Larval stage:** Length = 8 weeks in California, USA; 8 to 10 weeks in China (Yan et al. 2005). Larvae live in groups in communal chambers within the phloem. A unique feature of the beetle is that the larvae are gregarious whereas most other bark beetle larvae maintain separate feeding tunnels. Gregarious insects live and feed in communities (of the same kind). The larvae tunnels appear as irregularly-margined fan-shapes.

**Pupa stage:** Length = 1 week in California, USA; 1 to 2 weeks in China (Yan et al. 2005). As larvae complete their feeding they scoop out bits of wood or bark to make separate pupation cells. In the pupal, or resting stage, the wings, legs and antennae are held against the body. Pupation of over-wintering larva begins in early June, and eclosion (emergence) begins in early July; adults can be detected from May to October (Miao et al. 2001 in Yan et al. 2005).

**Adult emergence & flight:** Length of young adult stage = 1 week (Yan et al. 2005). Within a few days to several months warm Spring weather induces emerged beetles to bore out, take flight and disperse in the search for a suitable new host. Flight temperature ranges have been recorded from 19 degrees C to 23 degrees C. In relatively warmer regions emergence and new attacks may occur at nearly any time of the year. In colder regions winter hibernation of the adult or larva may occur, often taking place under root bark (Britton and Sun 2002, Wu et al. 2002, in Yan et al. 2005). (Pupae and eggs rarely overwinter.)
Habitat Description

*Dendroctonus valens* is found in coniferous and mixed coniferous forests in North and Central America where it colonises stressed pines (Erbilgin Nadir & Raffa 2002; Yan *et al.* 2005; Cai *et al.* 2008). It is a common pest of forest and park trees of pole-size or larger; in North America the beetle may attack freshly cut stumps and trees that are injured or weakened by roadbuilding, construction, logging, drought, fire or other insects (Smith 1971).

The most heavily attacked forests in China are located in mountains ranges in the Shanxi province from 600 to 2000 meters elevation (Zhang *et al.* 2002, in Yan *et al.* 2005). *P. tabuliformis* is a major reforestation species widely planted on degraded land; this increases tree stress and predisposes it to *D. valens* attack (Li *et al.* 2001 Yan *et al.* 2005). Mature and over-mature *P. tabuliformis* forests are infested, while younger forests are seldom attacked (Miao *et al.* 2001, in Yan *et al.* 2005).

*D. valens* occurs within a climatic region of China described as “warm temperature semi-moist” (Wu and Feng 1994, in Yan *et al.* 2005). Precipitation in northern China is generally lower than in other regions, especially from October to May (Sun *et al.* 2002, Yan *et al.* 2005), which may create favourable conditions for *D. valens*. High humidity and consecutive rainfall disrupts the growth of larvae and eggs of *D. valens* (Miao *et al.* 2001, in Yan *et al.* 2005). Parts of Northern China are becoming drier, hotter and plagued by drought leaving the primary pine host *P. tabuliformis* stressed and contributing to the current outbreak of *D. valens* (Sun & Shuqing *et al.* 2002, Li *et al.* 2001, Miao *et al.* 2001, in Yan *et al.* 2005). Winter temperatures, in particular, have been warmer than in previous years and appear to be a critical factor for beetle survival (Xu *et al.* 1986, Li *et al.* 2001).

Reproduction

*Dendroctonus valens* may lay over a hundred eggs (Yan *et al.* 2005).

Nutrition

Bark beetles mine wood, gaining nutrition from the inner bark (the phloem-cambial region) of twigs, branches, trunks and roots of host trees or woody plants (Seybold, Paine & Dreistadt 2008). Red turpentine bark beetles mine the lower trunk and upper root system only. Red turpentine beetle adults bore through the corky outer layer (bark) to the surface of the wood. Larvae emerge to feed on the inner bark tissue between the outer dry bark and the wood; larvae chambers are within the phloem and do not expand significantly into the sapwood (Smith 1971).
General Impacts
Bark beetles (family: Scolytidae) are common pests of conifers, especially pine (Seybold Paine & Dreistadt 2008). The red turpentine beetle has been recorded on at least 40 species of conifer (Liu et al. 2006). *Dendroctonus valens* has a high intrinsic capacity for adaptation with new hosts compared to other species of *Dendroctonus* (Sturgeon & Mitton 1982, Kelley & Farrell 1998, in Erbilgin et al. 2007).

*D. valens* attacks all pine species, and occasionally spruce and larch, within its range in North America (Yan et al. 2005). Major *Pinus* spp. affected are *P. ponderosa*, *P. contorta*, *P. jeffreyi*, *P. lambertiana*, *P. monticola*, *P. radiata*, *P. strobes*, *P. resinosa*, *P. rigida*, *P. echinata* and *Pinus banksian* (Yan et al. 2005). Damage to *Pinus armandi* and *Picea meyeri* is unconfirmed (Zhang et al. 2002, in Yan et al. 2005). *P. ponderosa* is reported as the tree most frequently infested with *D. valens* and *P. radiata* as the tree most frequently killed by *D. valens* infestations (Smith 1971). In China *D. valens* primarily attacks *P. tabuliformis* and *P. bungeana*. Occasional hosts include *Picea meyeri* and *P. sylvestris* (Yan et al. 2005). *P. sylvestris* var. *mongolica* is a rare pine species found in Shanxi province and it has occasionally been attacked by *D. valens*. The oleoresin compositions of *P. massoniana* and *P. armandi* are so similar to *P. tabuliformis* that they are presumed hosts. However, it is believed that all Asian pine are potentially at risk of *D. valens* infestation (Yan et al. 2005). In China *D. valens* will colonise both stressed and healthy pines rather than only stressed pines as is the case in North America. The enormous damage caused *D. valens* in China is thought to be facilitated by drought conditions, degradation of pine sites, the presence of fungal associates and the use of monocultures (Li et al. 2001, in Yan et al. 2005).

Logging and farming activities may also contribute to the spread of the beetle (Furniss & Carolin 1977; Miao et al. 2001). The red turpentine beetle is spreading throughout four Chinese provinces. In these provinces it has infested and killed more than 6 million *P. tabulaeformis*, covering an area of half a million hectares of ecologically and economically valuable forest (Cognato et al. 2005; Liu & Dai 2006). In northern China the land is very dry, the watershed is low and soil conservation is paramount. Billions of tons of agricultural and other soils are annually washed down the Yellow River. Reforestation and forest protection programs, begun in the 1900s, have since involved the planting of *P. tabulaeformis* and *P. armandi* pine to reforest the land and prevent soil erosion. The status of these reforestation programs is currently threatened by *D. valens* infestations. The potential damage inflicted by *D. valens* to reforested and naturally forested lands in northern China is enormous (LUBIES 2004). The interaction between *D. valens* and native pine-infesting diseases, beetles and insects (including two congeners *D. Kugelann* and *D. armandi*) is unknown (Yan et al. 2005). Secondary bark beetles such as *D. valens* may vector root disease organisms (Joseph et al. 2001). In the United States *D. valens* is known to carry the virulent fungus *Leptographium terebrantis* which infects ponderosa pine and may contribute to host pine mortality (LUBIES 2004; Yan et al. 2005). It is unknown what fungal species may be associated with *D. valens* in its range in China.
Management Info

Preventative measures: Quarantine restrictions in northern China prevent the unauthorised movement of infested material including trees, logs and wood products (Yan et al. 2005). Cargo is currently checked by hand. To avoid over-sights improved equipment and methods are needed (Yang 1993, in Liu & Dai 2006).

Pine plots in China are inspected in the summer and the fall for indicators of *D. valens* attack, such as the presence of pitch tubes or boring material (Yan et al. 2005). Flight traps, funnel traps and pitfall traps are all used to monitor beetle numbers (Erbilgin Nadir & Raffa 2002). Lower stem flight traps have been shown to catch relatively high numbers of *D. valens* (Yan et al. 2005).

Chemical: Bark beetles are good candidates for semiochemical-based control methods (Borden 1997, in Rappaport Owen & Stein 2001). The use of ecologically-selective semiochemicals are environmentally friendly and non-toxic (Carmona Undated). Research on bark beetle response to pine host volatiles and beetle pheromones in China and North America is on-going. Anti-aggregation pheromones such as verbenone repel red turpentine beetles. Verbenone acts as a chemical message to *D. valens* that host food resources are limited. Release rates of the pheromone must be carefully controlled as low release rates of verbenone will actually increase *D. valens* response to host attractant molecules. Pine monoterpenes are highly attractive to bark beetles (Liu & Dai 2006) and have applications in the monitoring and trapping of beetles. 

Insecticides: Fumigation or injection of beetle galleries or spraying of basal tree trunks with insecticides may result in 90 to 98% beetle mortality (Shanxi Forestry Bureau Unpub. Data). Fumigation is costly and difficult and is not effective at controlling beetle populations over large areas. It can result in environmental contamination and decreased natural enemy populations.

Biological: Research from the Université Libre de Bruxelles showed that *Rhizophagus grandis* is able to successfully complete its life-cycle with *D. valens*. *R. grandis* responds to attractants produced by *D. valens*, enters *D. valens* galleries and oviposits a relatively high number of eggs. 

Please follow this link for detailed information on the management of the Red turpentine beetle (*Dendroctonus valens*).
**Pathway**

Bark beetles (Coleoptera: Scolytidae) are particularly liable to bypass quarantine undetected in wood articles (Smith 1971). Bark beetles are most often intercepted in dunnage and solid wood packing material at US ports of entry (Haack 2001, in Cognato et al. 2005). The quantity of imported timber is increasing rapidly with the economic development of China. Longicorn beetles, bark beetles and termites are important timber pests that may be introduced by importing timber. These organisms are a considerable threat to Chinese forestry (Liu & Dai 2006). Bark-covered conifer logs shipped from the western US to Shanxi during the 1980s are thought to be origin of the current infestation of the red turpentine beetle in China (Cai et al. 2008). Humans facilitate the spread of *D. valens* between otherwise widely separated pine strands. Pine material with intact bark may harbor *D. valens*. The harvesting of dying, infested trees and logs facilitates *D. valens* spread through China (Yan et al. 2005). Such materials are considered to be high risk goods as they are suitable habitat material for *D. valens*. The harvesting of pine trees and logs is considered to be a high risk activity (Yan et al. 2005).

**Principal source:**

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**ALIEN RANGE**

[6] CHINA

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

49 references found for *Dendroctonus valens*

**Management information**

BeetleBlock - Verbenone a Repellent Pheremone Product for Control of the Mountain Pine Beetle *Dendroctonus ponderosae*, Western Pine Beetle *Dendroctonus brevicomis* And Southern Pine Beetle *Dendroctonus frontalis*.

Summary: Abstract: The red turpentine bark beetle, Dendroctonus valens LeConte, is a native of North America and is distributed from Central America, Mexico, western US, Canada and northeastern US. Mostly dead or dying Pinus, Picea and Abies are hosts but unhealthy live trees are sometimes killed. Recently epidemic populations of this species have been discovered in Shaxi, Shaaxi, Hebei and Henan Provinces, China. So far over half million hectares of drought stressed, Pinus tabuliformis have been infested. Biology and ecology of the red turpentine bark beetle varies within its native range thus biological control (e.g. parasitoids and pheromones) must tailored to each population. Unknown origin(s) of the Chinese beetles hampers the implementation of biological control. This study uses a portion of the mitochondrial cytochrome oxidase I gene as a molecular marker to identify potential origin(s), size and occurrence of introduction(s) to China. Thirty-four DNA haplotypes were observed among 65 D. valens individuals from eight western US populations and four haplotypes were found in China. Ten parsimony informative characters were observed among the haplotypes. Parsimony analysis resulted in 8800 trees and the strict consensus of these trees was mostly unresolved. These data and analysis do not pinpoint the exact origin of the infestation. However the results suggest that the likely origin is the Pacific Northwest of North America. Also the occurrence of multiple haplotypes in China suggests that the population did not derive from one ancestor. Either multiple families arrived with one introduction of infested wood or several introductions of infested wood occurred.


Summary: Abstract: The red turpentine beetle, Dendroctontis valens LeConte (Coleoptera: Scolytidae), is a common bark beetle species found throughout much of North America. In California, D. valens and the California fivespined ips, Ips paraconfusus Lanier (Coleoptera: Scolytidae), are sympatric and often colonize the same tree. In an unrelated study, we observed that I. paraconfusus attack densities in logging debris were inversely related to D. valens attacks on freshly cut stumps. In this study, we test the hypothesis that allomonal inhibition occurs between these two species. Components of the aggregation pheromone of I. paraconfusus (racemic ipsenol, (+)-ipsdienol, and (-)-cis-verbenol) inhibited the response of D. valens to attractant-baited traps. Substitution of racemic ipsdienol for (+)-ipsdienol did not alter this effect. Doubling the release rate did not enhance inhibition. Racemic ipsdienol was not attractive to I. paraconfusus. Temnochila chlorodia (Mannerheim, 1843) (Coleoptera: Trogositidae), a common bark beetle predator, was attracted to the I. paraconfusus aggregation pheromone. These results could have important implications for the development of an effective semiochemical-based management tool for D. valens.


Summary: Abstract: Mechanical thinning and the application of prescribed fire are commonly used tools in the restoration of fire-adapted forest ecosystems. However, few studies have explored their effects on subsequent amounts of bark beetle caused tree mortality in interior ponderosa pine, Pinus ponderosa Dougl. ex P. & C. Laws. var. ponderosa. In this study, we examined bark beetle responses to creation of midseral (low diversity) and late-seral stages (high diversity) and the application of prescribed fire on 12 experimental units ranging in size from 76 to 136 ha. A total of 9500 (5.0% of all trees) Pinus and Abies trees died 2 years after treatment of which 28.8% (2733 trees) was attributed to bark beetle colonization. No significant difference in the mean percentage of trees colonized by bark beetles was found between low diversity and high diversity. The application of prescribed fire resulted in significant increases in bark beetle caused tree mortality (all species) and for western pine beetle, Dendroctonus brevicomis LeConte, mountain pine beetle, Dendroctonus ponderosae Hopkins, Ips spp., and fir engraver, Scylothys ventralis LeConte, individually. Approximately 85.6% (2339 trees) of all bark beetle caused tree mortality occurred on burned split plots. The implications of these and other results to sustainable forest management are discussed.

Summary: Abstract: Nonhost angiosperm volatiles (NAV) and verbenone were tested for their ability to protect individual ponderosa pines, Pinus ponderosa Dougl. ex. Laws., from attack by western pine beetle (M), Dendroctonus brevicomis LeConte, and red turpentine beetle (M), Dendroctonus valens LeConte (Coleoptera: Curculionidae, Scolytinae). A combination of (-)-verbenone and eight NAVs [benzyl alcohol, benzaldehyde, guaiacol, nonanal, salicylaldehyde, (E)-2-hexenal, (E)-2-hexen-1-ol, and (Z)-2-hexen-1-ol] (NAVV) significantly reduced the density of WPB attacks and WPB successful attacks on attractant-baited trees. A significantly higher percentage of pitchouts (unsuccessful WPB attacks) occurred on NAVV-treated trees during two of three sample dates. In addition, significantly fewer RTB attacks were observed on NAVV-treated trees during all sampling dates. The application of NAVV to individual ponderosa pines significantly reduced tree mortality, with only 4 of 30 attractant-baited trees dying from bark beetle attack while 50% mortality (15/30) was observed in the untreated, baited control. To our knowledge, this is the first report establishing the effectiveness of NAVs and verbenone for protecting individual ponderosa pines from WPB attack.


Summary: Abstract: According to the international methods of pest risk analysis and characteristics of urban forestry in Beijing, a quantitative risk assessment system in Beijing for the main non-indigenous pests was proposed. This system was used to analyze three non-indigenous species, Dendroctonus valens, Hypanthria cunea and Apriona swainsoni. The results show that the risk of these three species in the Beijing area is 2.46, 2.30 and 2.02, all highly risky. Based on the result and extensive risk communications combined with the management experience of the Beijing Forest Protection Station, the authors proposed that effective control measures are adopted to prevent these three pests from entering Beijing area.


Liu, Zhudong; Zhang, Longwa, Sun, Jianghua., 2006. Attacking behavior and behavioral responses to dust volatiles from holes bored by the red turpentine beetle, Dendroctonus valens (Coleoptera : Scolytidae) to host semiochemicals and its implication in management. Acta Entomologica Sinica, 2004 (Vol. 47) (No. 3) 360-364

Summary: Abstract: The red turpentine beetle (RTB), D. valens, an invasive pest from the United States became a major forest pest in its invading areas since its first outbreak in Shanxi Province, China in 1999. As an exotic pest, effective detection and monitoring is top priority in containing its further damage. The response of RTB to its host semiochemicals was explored in Shanxi Province using Lindgren funnel trap. The results indicated that 3-carene was found to be the most attractive host monoterpenoids tested, and it attracted significantly more beetles than did any other single or ternary blend, which was distinctly different from the previous reports conducted in its native range, west coast of the United States. The mechanism for this regional variation of RTB response to host volatiles was discussed. Increase of (-)-?-pinene did not result in any increase of beetles trapped while adding limonene which is another main component in volatile profile of Pinus tabulaeformis, to the standard lure used in North America (a 1:1:1 blend of (+)-a-pinene, (-)-?-pinene, and 3-carene) significantly decreased RTB response. The effect of release rate on RTB response was tested by using the standard blend at 110 mg/day, 150 mg/day, 180 mg/day and 210 mg/day, and 150 mg/day was found to be the most optimum release rate for RTB in terms of both attractiveness and economic efficiency. Thus, this effective RTB lure can be used in RTB monitoring and control.

NHVs may have considerable potential for disrupting the beetle’s ability to locate suitable hosts. Further field trapping experiments showed that attraction of *D. valens* to kairomone-baited traps was reduced by 69.5, 68.3 and 66.0%, respectively. In the development and implementation of a semiochemical-based management programme for *D. valens*, all individual NHVs were tested for both electrophysiological and behavioral effects on the red turpentine beetle, *Dendroctonus valens* LeConte (Coleoptera: Scolytidae), which was accidentally introduced into China in the mid-1980s. All NHVs tested elicited dose-dependent antennal responses by *D. valens*. In Y-tube olfactometer trials, *D. valens* were repelled by NHVs tested. When NHVs were added to a kairomone blend, responses of *D. valens* were significantly inhibited. Further field trapping experiments showed that attraction of *D. valens* to kairomone-baited traps was reduced by all individual NHVs, with reductions ranging from 26.3 to 70%. 1-Octen-3-ol, (Z)-3-hexen-1-ol, and (E)-2-hexen-1-ol were the three most effective NHVs, significantly reducing attraction of *D. valens* to kairomone-baited traps by 69.5, 68.3 and 66.0%, respectively. In the development and implementation of a semiochemical-based management programme for *D. valens*, NHVs may have considerable potential for disrupting the beetle’s ability to locate suitable hosts.


**General information**


**Summary:**

*Non-host volatiles (NHVs)* that are often reported as being disruptive to coniferophagous bark beetles were tested for both electrophysiological and behavioral effects on the red turpentine beetle, *Dendroctonus valens* LeConte (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Scolytinae), which was accidentally introduced into China in the mid-1980 s. All NHVs tested elicited dose-dependent antennal responses by *D. valens*. In Y-tube olfactometer trials, *D. valens* were repelled by NHVs tested. When NHVs were added to a kairomone blend, responses of *D. valens* were significantly inhibited. Further field trapping experiments showed that attraction of *D. valens* to kairomone-baited traps was reduced by all individual NHVs, with reductions ranging from 26.3 to 70%. 1-Octen-3-ol, (Z)-3-hexen-1-ol, and (E)-2-hexen-1-ol were the three most effective NHVs, significantly reducing attraction of *D. valens* to kairomone-baited traps by 69.5, 68.3 and 66.0%, respectively. In the development and implementation of a semiochemical-based management programme for *D. valens*, NHVs may have considerable potential for disrupting the beetle’s ability to locate suitable hosts.


Summary: Abstract: The red turpentine beetle, Dendroctonus valens Le Conte (Coleoptera: Scolytidae), was found for the first time in China in Yangcheng and Xinhui counties, Shanxi province in 1998, and in Hebei province in 1999. The beetle mostly attacks the oil pine Pinus tabulaeformis Carriere. By 2003 the beetle was found in 85 counties of three provinces in north China and the area of infested pine forests covered more than 700,000 ha. The elevation above sea level of forests infested is more than 800 m. The beetles most frequently attack trees on hillslopes and at the forest edge, fewer attacks occurred in the centre of the stand. This correlates with the damage done to the trees by wind or man. Weak and dying trees are more vulnerable to attack than healthy ones. The most attractive breeding sites are fresh stumps. The population density of the beetles is higher in the forests on northern slopes than on southern slopes. Most of the bores in the trunk are less than 0.5 m above ground; the galleries are found also on roots.


Summary: Abstract: A 1993 survey for the recently detected pine shoot beetle, Ips pini, a Palearctic species first detected in North America in New York in 1989, was trapped at 2 sites in 5 counties of western New York. The European Hylastes opacus, known previously in North America from a single locality on Long Island, New York, was trapped at 32 sites in 22 counties throughout the state. Localities for all new records are listed and plotted on distribution maps. North American interception records, native distribution, economic importance, and diagnostic features for H. opacus are provided, and an existing key to North American Hylastes is modified to include this new adventive member of the fauna, Data on relative abundance are provided for other species of conifer-feeding bark beetles that were trapped, which included: Dendroctonus erebans, Dendroctonus valens, Dryocoetes autographus, Gnathotrichus materiarius, Hylastes porculus, Hylurgops rugipennis pinicola, Ips pini, Orthotomicus caelatus, Pityophthorus sp. puberulus, and Polygraphus rufipennis.

ITIS (Integrated Taxonomic Information System), 2008. Online Database Dendroctonus valens LeConte., 1860


Summary: Abstract: A study was conducted to determine whether Dendroctonus valens and Hylastes porculus could vector their commonly associated fungi to red pine. Field collected adult D. valens transmitted Leptographium terebrantis, Leptographium procerum and Ophiostoma ips into 45%, 30%, and 5%, respectively of the wounded red pine roots onto which they were caged. Field collected H. porculus transmitted L. terebrantis, L. procerum and O. ips into 55%, 40%, and 5%, respectively, of the wounded red pine roots onto which beetles were caged. None of the control roots, which were mechanically wounded only, were found to contain O. ips, whereas only one control root contained L. terebrantis and only one control root contained L. procerum. This work demonstrates that D. valens and H. porculus can vector their associated Leptographium fungus to red pine trees ana that these organisms are likely involved in red pine decline disease.

Liu, Zhudong; Zhang, Longwa, Shi, Zhanghong; Wang, Bo; Tao, Wan Giang; Sun, Jiang-hua., 2008. Colonization patterns of the red turpentine beetle, Dendroctonus valens (Coleoptera: Curculionidae), in the Luliang Mountains, China. Insect Science, Volume 15, Number 4, August 2008 . pp. 349-354(6)


Summary: Abstract: The host-colonization behavior of the red turpentine beetle, Dendroctonus valens LeConte (Coleoptera: Scolytidae), was investigated in stands of ponderosa pine, Pinus ponderosa P. & C. Lawson (Pinaceae), with black stain root disease in the central Sierra Nevada of California. By felling live trees, we found that trees with pitch tubes produced during the initiation of tunneling by D. valens had a significantly higher incidence of black stain root disease, caused by Leptographium wageneri var. ponderosum (Harrington et Cobb), than trees without pitch tubes. Trees with the most D. valens pitch tubes had the greatest likelihood of being diseased. Additionally, observations over a 3-year period revealed that trees with D. valens pitch tubes had a significantly higher mortality rate than trees without pitch tubes. Infection by L. wageneri was confirmed for most of the trees that died, and death typically did not occur without mass attacks by the western pine beetle, D. brevicomis LeConte, and (or) the mountain pine beetle, D. ponderosae Hopkins. Trees with the most D. valens pitch tubes had the highest mortality rate. An experiment was conducted to compare the attraction of D. valens and other insects to wounded-diseased, wounded-symptomless, and unwounded trees. More D. valens, Spondylis upiformis Mannerheim (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae), and Hylastes spp. (Coleoptera: Scolytidae) were attracted to wounded trees than to unwounded trees. Catches of these beetles on wounded-diseased trees were not significantly different from catches on wounded-symptomless trees.


Summary: Abstract: Pine bark beetles, Dendroctonus spp., constitute one of the most important forest pests in Mexico. The 1st description of the genus was made by Latreille (1802) under the name of Tomicus, with Dermestes pinipera L as the type species. Because of an error in identification the genus Tomicus was associated with the genus Ips; it was not until 100 yr later that the error was discovered, when the name Dendroctonus (Erichson, 1864) was widely used. Because of the insect s great economic and biological importance Wood (1961) petitioned the International Commission of Zoological Nomenclature, asking the name Dendroctonus be retained, with Bostrichus micans Kugelmann as the type species. Among the species known in Mexico are D. mexicanus Hopk., D. frontalis Zim., D. adjunctus Bland., D. brevicomis Lec., D. rhizophagus T. et B., D. valens Lec. and D. paralellocollis Chap. The host species recorded, in order of importance, are Pinus leiophylia, P. oocarpa, P. hartwegii, P. ringlie, P. douglasiiana, P. teocote, P. micoacana, P. montezumae, P. herrerai, P. patula, P. pinceana, P. pseudotribus, P. rudis, P. duxangensis, P. engelmanni and P. ponderosa var. contorta.


Summary: Abstract: A total of 110 species of Scolytidae are reported from Maryland. Thirty species reported new to Maryland are: Hylastes opacus Erichson, Dendroctonus valens LeConte, Tomicus pinipera (L.), Phileotribus dentitrons (Blackman), Carphoborus bicorns Wood, Polygraphus rugifrons (Kirby), Hylodiscus flaglesensis Blackman, Micracisella opaciollis (LeConte), Ips avuluis (Eichhoff), Dryocoetes affaber (Mannerheim), D. autographus (Ratzburg), D. gracionollis (LeConte), Lymantor decipiens (LeConte), Tryptodendron betulae Swaine, T. lineatum (Oliver), T. retusum (LeConte), T. scabricollis (LeConte), Ambrosiodmus obliquus (LeConte), Xyleborus planicollis Zimmermann, Xylostrans crassiuscatus (Motschulsky), Cryptalus rubentes Hopkins, Pityoborus commatus (Zimmermann), Pityophthorus balsameus Blackman, P. caniceps LeConte, P. confusus Lec., P. liquidambarus Blackman, P. opaculis LeConte, P. puberulus (LeConte), Pseudopityophthorus asperulus (LeConte), and Corhylus punctissimus (Zimmermann). Of the 110 species reported in the state, 19 are not native to North America.


Summary: Abstract: Interactions between forest health variables and mensurational characteristics in an uneven-aged eastern Sierra Nevada mixed conifer stand were examined. The stand was located in the Lake Tahoe Basin on a site featuring a coarsely textured granitic soil and numerous rock outcrops. Its composition was dominated by California white fir (Abies concolor var. iowiana [Gord.] Lemm.), with Jeffrey pine (Pinus jeffreyi [Grev. & Balf) and sugar pine (Pinus lambertiana Doug.) less prominent and incense-cedar (Libocedrus decurrens Turn) and mountain alder (Alnus tenuifolia Nutt,) the most minor constituents. The majority of saplings and seedlings were white fir. The stand exhibited no evidence that its development had been influenced 1). fire and, overall, it consisted of numerous small trees accruing little radial growth. Nearly one-quarter of all standing stems pole size or larger were dead, with mortality concentrated in white fir. Forest-floor fuel accumulations were excessive, and coarse debris was especially prominent. A fir engraver beetle (Scolytus ventralis LeConte) epidemic in white fir contrasted against apparent endemic population levels of the Jeffrey pine (Dendroctonus jeffreyi Hopkins) and red turpentine (Dendroctonus valens LeConte) beetles in Jeffrey pine and of the mountain pine beetle (Dendroctonus ponderosae Hopkins) in sugar pine. The severity of fir engraver attack on white fir was weakly related to overall tree size and to the proportion of composition consisting of this host species, while in Jeffrey pine and sugar pine, bark beetle attacks were strongly correlated with the overall proportions of these 2 hosts. Across all species, basal area explained a substantial proportion of the variation in overall attack severity We found light infestations of true fir dwarf mistletoe (Arceuthobium abietinum Engel., ex Munz f. sp. concoloris) in white fir and western dwarf mistletoe (Arceuthobium campylopodum Engel.) in Jeffrey pine, plus an early stage of infection by the white Pine blister rust (Cronartium ribicola J.C. Fischer) in sugar pine. Collectively, this case study characterized and quantified many of the conditions, symptoms, and causative agents inherent in a decadent mixed conifer stand in the eastern Sierra Nevada. Williams, Kelly., Joel D. McMillin, Tom E. DeGomez, Karen M. Clancy, And Andy Miller., 2008. Influence of Elevation on Bark Beetle (Coleoptera: Curculionidae,Scolytinae) Community Structure and Flight Periodicity in Ponderosa Pine Forests of Arizona, Environ. Entomol. 37(1): 94-109

Xu, Haigeng., Sheng Qiang, Zhengmin Han, Jianying Guo, Zongguo Huang, Hongying Sun, Shuning He, Hui Ding, Hairong Wu and Fanghao Wan., 2006. The status and causes of alien species invasion in China. Biodiversity and Conservation Volume 15, Number 9 / August, 2006


Summary: Abstract: The red turpentine beetle, Dendroctonus valens LeConte, native in North America, is a destructive exotic pest of pines in China. Since its first large outbreak in 1999 in Shanxi Province, D. valens has spread rapidly to the adjacent provinces Hebei, Henan and Shaanxi, and has infested over 500 000 bra of Chinese pine stands, killing more than 6 million trees to date. Here, we report the recent progress, principally results of our researches on the D. valens, including the origin of introduction, the response to host monoterpenes, the pheromone identification, the potential repellents, the relationship of the invasion with the fungal symbionts. Historic records and molecular data support the hypothesis that the introduction of D. valens to China was recent and originated from the Pacific North west of the U. S. A. The studies on the response to host volatiles by native and introduced populations showed that (+)-3 - Carene was the most attractive monoterpene for the native and Chinese populations of D. valens, and (+)-3 - Carene is thus broadly applicable for monitoring D. valens in both China and North America. Relatively little is known of its pheromone biology. Our recent work, using gas chromatographic and mass spectral (GC-MS) analysis of hindgut volatiles, revealed the presence of Trans-verbenol, Cis-verbenol, Myrtenol, Myrtenal, and Verbenone, and the bioactivity of these oxygenated monoterpene and D. valens were confirmed. Although the appropriateness of classifying these compounds as pheromones is still uncertain, these compounds clearly have potential for use in management of this important invasive beetle. Verbenone, an antiaggregant for many bark beetles, has been shown to be effective in interrupting the response of D. valens to host volatiles and has a dose-dependent effect in its interruption. All of these results indicate that Verbenone functions as a multipurpose pheromone for D. valens. In the studies of responses of D. valens to non-host volatiles (NHVs) 1-Octen-3-ol, (Z)-hexen-1-ol, and (E)-2-hexen-1-ol were the three most effective NHVs, significantly reducing D. valens to kairomone-baited traps. In the development and implementation of a semiochemical-based management programme for D. valens, NHVs and Verbenone may have considerable potential for disrupting the beetle’s ability to locate suitable hosts. A novel lure release device, Sun vial, devised and patented in China, was widely applied in the management on the D. valens. At present, studies on the fungal symbionts of D. valens in both China and North America and the chemical communication relationships of D. valens with native bark beetles are well underway. The aims of these studies are to determine the importance of behavioral chemistry and fungal associations in the invasiveness and aggressiveness of D. valens and to test our hypothesis What goes around and what comes around.