**Gonipterus scutellatus**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Kingdom</th>
<th>Phylum</th>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Order</th>
<th>Family</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Animalia</td>
<td>Arthropoda</td>
<td>Insecta</td>
<td>Coleoptera</td>
<td>Curculionidae</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**System:** Terrestrial

**Common name**
gorgojo del eucalipto (Spanish), eucalyptus snout beetle (English), eucalyptus weevil (English), gum tree weevil (English), Eukalyptusrüssler (German)

**Synonym**

**Similar species**
Gonipterus gibberus

**Summary**

*Gonipterus scutellatus*, or the eucalyptus snout beetle, is native to Australia. It is specific to *Eucalyptus* species, and *G. scutellatus* is considered to be one of the major defoliators of *Eucalyptus* spp. worldwide. It causes damage to eucalyptus in both larval and adult stages, in particular to the young leaves and repeated defoliation by *G. scutellatus* can lead to tree death. However, the egg parasitoid *Anaphes nitens* has been introduced as a successful biological control agent in several countries.

[view this species on IUCN Red List](http://www.iucngisd.org/gisd/species.php?sc=1751)

**Species Description**

Please see PaDIL (Pests and Diseases Image Library) Species Content Page Beetles: eucalyptus snout beetle *Gonipterus scutellatus* Gyllenhal, 1833 (Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Entiminae) for high quality diagnostic and overview images.

**Notes**

Notes on taxonomy and nomenclature: a third species, *Gonipterus platensis* Marelli, was described in Argentina and said to be different from both *G. gibberus* and *G. scutellatus* (Marelli, 1927). Rosado-Neto (1993) treats it as a synonym of *G. scutellatus* (from EPPO, 2005).

**Habitat Description**

The only hosts are *Eucalyptus* spp., of which the most susceptible are *Eucalyptus camaldulensis*, *Eucalyptus globulus*, *Eucalyptus maidenii*, *Eucalyptus punctata*, *Eucalyptus robusta*, *Eucalyptus smithii* and *Eucalyptus viminalis* (Griffith, 1959 in Walker 2008).
General Impacts
Feeding by Gonipterus spp. leads to characteristically scalloped leaf edges, with a resultant dieback of shoot tips and development of tufts of epicormic shoots (Walker 2008). G. scutellatus are important defoliators of Eucalyptus spp. Trees become stunted and may split and die.

Management Info
The mymarid solitary-egg parasitoid Anaphes nitens, an Australian native, has been used as a successful biocontrol agent against G. scutellatus in several countries. These include Brazil, Chile, Mauritius, New Zealand, South Africa, Spain and the United States. A. nitens larvae feed directly on and from within G. scutellatus host eggs. (Hanks et al. 2000; Santolamazza-Carbone et al. 2009; Wlicken et al. 2008; Williams et al. 1951; Withers 2001). Chemical methods are not recommended for control of G. scutellatus as honey bees are frequent visitors of Eucalyptus spp. during its long flowering season. (EPPO 2005). G. scutellatus is listed as an A2 quarantine pest for the European and Mediterranean Plant Protection Organisation (EPPO), and it is regulated by most EPPO countries, particularly the EU. Eucalyptus species introduced into endangered countries in form of plant or cuttings must originate from a pest-free area, or the plants must be free of soil, and treated for G. scutellatus. (EPPO 2005).

Pathway
Larvae and/or pupae may be present in soil. (EPPO 2005). Transportation of host. Larvae and/or pupae may be present in soil. (EPPO 2005). On clothing/footwear, hikers' clothes/boots - when disturbed, adult Gonipterus scutellatus readily drop from tree branches and cling to whatever they land on. (Hanks et al. 2000). Transportation of wood. (Wlicken et al. 2008). May be present on plants/plant material. (EPPO 2005).


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Review:

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ALIEN RANGE

FULL ACCOUNT FOR: **Gonipterus scutellatus**

**BIBLIOGRAPHY**

15 references found for **Gonipterus scutellatus**

**Management information**


**Summary:** Available from: http://www.eppo.org/QUARANTINE/insects/Gonipterus_gibberus/DS_Gonipterus_spp.pdf [Accessed 26 July 2010]


**IUCN/SSC Invasive Species Specialist Group (ISSG), 2010. A Compilation of Information Sources for Conservation Managers.**

**Summary:** This compilation of information sources can be sorted on keywords for example: Baits & Lures, Non Target Species, Eradication, Monitoring, Risk Assessment, Weeds, Herbicides etc. This compilation is at present in Excel format, this will be web-enabled as a searchable database shortly. This version of the database has been developed by the IUCN SSC ISSG as part of an Overseas Territories Environmental Programme funded project XOT603 in partnership with the Cayman Islands Government - Department of Environment. The compilation is a work under progress, the ISSG will manage, maintain and enhance the database with current and newly published information, reports, journal articles etc.


Walker, K. 2008. eucalyptus snout beetle (*Gonipterus scutellatus*) Pest and Diseases Image Library


**General information**


**Summary:** Available from: http://www.cabi.org/dmpp/?loadmodule=review&page=1155&reviewid=141632&site=164 [Accessed 26 July 2010]


**Summary:** *Gonipterus scutellatus* Gyllenhal is reported from central Italy (Latium) for the first time. The *Eucalyptus* weevil was thus far reported in Europe only from Italian and French Riviera.


**Summary:** *Gonipterus scutellatus* Gyllenhal, 1833 is reported for the first time in the State of Sao Paulo, Brazil. Some accounts, synonymies and distribution of this species and of *G. gibberus* Boisduval, 1835 in southern South America are added. A bibliographic list, mainly of South American references of both species, is also given.

Walker, K. (2007) Australian gum tree weevil (Gonipterus gibberus) Pest and Diseases Image Library


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**Summary:** The eucalyptus snout beetle *Gonipterus scutellatus* Gyllenhal was found in Espirito Santo State, Brazil, attacking clonal plantations of *Eucalyptus urophylla* x *E. grandis* (hybrid ?urograndis?). The presence of this species in Brazil has been known since 1979, with a geographical distribution restricted to Brazil’s South and São Paulo State. The pest’s introduction to the state of Espirito Santo was probably accidental and its occurrence has been limited to the central region of the state. Field surveys did not detect the egg parasitoid *Anaphes nitens* (Hymenoptera: Mymaridae), which is the main natural enemy of *G. scutellatus*.