

OCCURRENCE OF CERAMBYCID BORER *BANDAR PASCOEI* (LANSBERGE) IN PUNJAB

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ABSTRACT

This study brings out the occurrence of cerambycid borer *Bandar pascoei*, (Lansberge) from mango growing regions of Punjab. The redescription of the species alongwith distribution records are also given.

Key words: Borer, *Bandar pascoei*, Coleoptera, Hoshiarpur, Punjab, mango growing regions, survey, light trap

Recently, cerambycid borers viz., *Dorysthene* (*Lophosternus*) *huegelii* (Redtenbacher), *Aeolesthes holosericea* (Fabricius, 1787) and *Coptops aedificator* (Fabricius) have been reported on citrus and mango in Punjab, respectively causing significant damage to the plants (Singh and Sreedevi 2018; Singh and Sreedevi 2019; Singh et al. 2020). Stem borers of the Cerambycidae family are one of the serious pests of mango. Besides, *Batocera rufomaculata* (De Geer), *Glenea multiguttata* Guerin-Meneville has been reported on mango (Reddy et al. 2014). After hatching, neonate larva initially feeds under the bark and make tunnels (2-3 cm wide) through sapwood (Reddy et al. 2018). Keeping in view the increasing incidence of cerambycid borers in Punjab, surveys were aimed at studying the emerging cerambycid borer pests.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was conducted during June-July from 2017 to 2021. Mango growing areas of the submountainous zone of Punjab (31°31'38.4780"N, 75°54'49.2228"E) were studied for diversity of Cerambycidae. The light traps (160 W) were installed to attract the beetles at night at MS Randhawa Fruit Research Station, Gangian, district Hoshiarpur, Punjab. These beetles were sent to ICAR-National Bureau of Agricultural Insect Resources, Bengaluru, India for identification.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Identification done on morphological basis confirmed the 20 specimens as *Bandar pascoei* (Lansberge). The cerambycid was identified as *Bandar pascoei* (Lansberge, 1884) (Macrotomini: Priorinae:



Fig. 1. *Bandar pascoei*

Cerambycidae) (Fig. 1). A diagnosis of this reveals the following:

Body dark brown, elytra pale brown towards apex, distal segments of the antennae and hind legs and tarsi more or less reddish Length 61 mm. Head punctured in front and between the eyes, elongated behind the eyes, antenniferous tubers closely placed. Antennae 11 jointed, moderately long reaching 3/4th of the elytra, first joint relatively short and the third segment longest, asperate at the base. Pronotum rugose with a central small patch without punctures, edges with numerous short spines. Elytra densely granulate, the granules stronger towards the base, especially near the suture. Metasternum bare of pubescence, with a sparsely punctured triangular area clearly marked off by a slightly raised line from the closely punctured part on each side. Front legs spinose beneath, the femora thickened, the tibiae elongated and slightly curved; the middle and hind legs much less spinose.

Distribution: Bhutan (Lazarev, 2019); Borneo, Indonesia (Sumatra, Java) (Kariyanna et al. 2017); Malaysia (Chung et al. 2013); Nepal to Southern China (Komiya, 2016); Philippines (Hudephol, 1987); Sri Lanka (Makihara et al. 2008); Tibet, Myanmar, Thailand (Komiya, 2016); South Laos, Vietnam (Cuong et al. 2017); Banga Island, Billiton Island, Borneo, Hainan Island, Taiwan, Japan, Calemandan (Lingafelter et al. 2013); India: Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Sikkim, Tripura, West Bengal (Kumawat et al., 2015; Mitra et al., 2017; Kariyanna et al., 2018); Chhattisgarh and Madhya Pradesh (Majumder et al., 2014; Gajendra and Prasad, 2015; Kariyanna et al., 2017; Kariyanna et al., 2018); Gujarat (Kariyanna et al., 2018).

Host plants: *Castanea mollissima*, *Diospyros kaki*, *Malus pumila*, *Pistacia chinensis*, *Prunus armeniaca*, *P. persica*, *Pyrus serotina* and *Quercus variabilis* (Gressitt 1951; Makihara et al. 2008).

Remarks: Quentin and Villiers (1981) considered *B. pascoei* to be synonymous with *B. khooi*. Hudephol (1987) reported this species from the Philippines. This is the first documentation of *B. pascoei* in Punjab.

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CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflict of interest.

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