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FIRST RECORD OF THE WOOD-BORER HYLETTUS SENICULUS (COLEOPTERA: CERAMBYCIDAE) IN PINUS CARIBAEAE VAR. HONDURENSIS PLANTATIONS IN BRAZIL

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Cerambycids commonly affect forest trees and logs in Brazil (Zanuncio et al. 2005, 2010). For example, 13 cerambycid species were collected in a eucalyptus plantation and in the adjacent native cerrado vegetation in Minas Gerais State, Brazil, with 8 of them reported to damage eucalyptus and other Myrtaceae (Santos et al. 2014). Phoracantha recurva F., a quarantine pest for Brazil and European countries, damaged E. citriodora Hook logs (Wilcken et al. 2002). Anoplophora glabripennis Motschulsky damaged the phloem and xylem of Pinus spp. trees (Pinaceae) (Cavey et al. 1998). Oxymerus lutesus Voet and O. nigricornis Dupont damaged E. tereticornis plants (Berti-Filho 1997). Adults and larvae of O. basalis were collected on trunks and branches of eucalypt clone plants (E. urophylla x E. grandis) (Zanuncio et al. 2009). Here, we report a wood-borer damaging Pinus caribaea var. hondurensis logs in the municipalities of Prata (S 19° 17' W 48° 54') and Uberlândia (S 18° 54' W 48° 15'), Minas Gerais State, Brazil.

In 2007 and 2008, we sampled five groups of trap trees one group per local; each group was comprised of five plants treated with herbicide (Dodds et al. 2012). These trees were marked with plastic tape, georeferenced, and the CAP (circumference at breast height) measured. The herbicide Roundup NA (glyphosate) was applied at 1.0 mL per 10 cm CAP with a 20 mL syringe in four cuts on each trunk (north, south, east and west) approximately 1.30 m above ground. This herbicide was applied in Dec 18 and 19, 2007 and Dec 16 and 17, 2008. One tree per group was cut in Aug, Sep, Oct, Nov and Dec 2008 and 2009. The tree length was measured and the middle third selected and sectioned into 0.80 m long logs. Sign of borer infestation such as splatter resin on trunk and holes of adult emergence were evaluated in these logs.

Wood-borers were observed in trap trees starting with the first evaluation in August until the last in Dec 2008 and 2009. Prepupae, pupae, and adults of a Coleoptera were found under the bark of the trunks, and larvae in P. caribaea var. hondurensis logs cut with a chainsaw (Figs. 1, 2 and 3). Radial galleries of this larva were also observed. All insects found were collected, packed in 70% ethyl alcohol, and sent to the Department of Crop Protection of UNESP in the municipality of Botucatu, São Paulo State, Brazil. Larvae, prepupae, pupae, and adult images were sent to Dr. Antonio Santos Silva of Museum of Zoology of University of São Paulo for species identification. The insect was identified as Hylettus seniculus Germar 1824 (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae).

In Brazil, H. seniculus Germar (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) was reported to develop in branches and trunks of citrus plants in Roraima State, causing leaf wilting, drying, and breaking of branches, and tree death (Moreira et al. 2003). This species also was collected in large numbers in mango cultivation in Piaúi State (Paz et al. 2008). Bionomic data for species of this genus are scarce, but H. coenobita larvae fed on Brosimum sp., Ficus sp. and Persea sp. (Moraceae) and H. spilotus on Protium sp. (Burseraceae) (Tavakilian et al. 1997). However, this is the first report of P. caribaea being attached by H. seniculus in Brazil.

Larvae and pupae of H. seniculus are whitish; adults are about 4.5 cm long, with antennae...
reaching half the body length. They nocturnal,
and typically found resting on logs or under
bark of fallen trees (Costa Lima 1955). Larvae
of this species pupate in the cortex region of
plants (Moreira et al. 2003).

Forest resources can be maximized if prop-
er management procedures are implemented.
Monitoring and understanding the insect fauna
and its relationship with forest plantations are
important (Moreira et al. 2003). Storage of \textit{P.}
\textit{caribaea} var. \textit{hondurensis} logs should be avoid-
ed because of damage by \textit{H. seniculus} can dis-
qualify logs for sawmills.

**SUMMARY**

Here we report for the first time the occur-
rence of \textit{Hylettus seniculus} Germar 1824
(Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) boring \textit{Pinus caribaea}
var. \textit{hondurensis} Morelet (Pinaceae) trunks.
Damage by this insect were evaluated from Au-
gust to Dec 2008 and 2009 by cutting a tree per
month from 5 groups of trap trees (5 plants per
group) stressed with systemic herbicide. The
damage by \textit{H. seniculus} on trap trees \textit{P. caribaea}
var. \textit{hondurensis} indicates that prolonged stor-
age of pine logs in the field should be avoided.

**Key Words:** biological control, forest pest man-
agement, long-horned beetles, monitoring

**RESUMO**

Este trabalho registra, pela primeira vez, a
ocorrência de \textit{Hylettus seniculus} Germar 1824
(Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) broqueando plantas de \textit{Pinus caribaea} var. \textit{hondurensis} Morelet
(Pinaceae). As avaliações foram realizadas, de
agosto a dezembro de 2008 e 2009, com corte de
uma árvore por mês de cinco grupos de árvores-
armadilha (5 plantasgrupo) estressadas com
herbicida sistêmico. Os danos por \textit{H. seniculus}
indicam que não se deve armazenar toras de pi-
nus no campo.

**Palavras-Chave:** controle biológico, manejo
de pragas florestais, serra-paus, monitoramen-

Fig. 1. \textit{Hylettus seniculus} (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) feeding on \textit{Pinus caribaea} var. \textit{hondurensis} log at Prata,
Minas Gerais State, Brazil. Dec 2008 and 2009: A) external view of the hole produced by the larva; B) larva exiting;
C and D) prepupa. Scale bar = 5 mm.
Fig. 2. A) and B) *Hylettus seniculus* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) pupae and cocoons in a log; C) dorsal view of pupa within the cocoon; D) ventral view of the pupa within the cocoon in a *Pinus caribaea* var. *hondurensis* log at Prata, Minas Gerais State, Brazil. Dec 2008 and 2009. Scale bars = 10 mm.

Fig. 3. A) and B) *Hylettus seniculus* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) adults preparing for flight on a *Pinus caribaea* var. *hondurensis* log at Prata, Minas Gerais State, Brazil. Dec 2008 and 2009. Scale bars = 10 mm.

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