

The Tropical Fig Borer, *Batocera rufomaculata* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae), new for Turkey

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Abstract: The Tropical Fig Borer, *Batocera rufomaculata* (De Geer, 1775) is recorded from the eastern Mediterranean Region of Turkey as a genus, species and a fig pest new for Turkey. The material collected and the views of some growers suggest that *B. rufomaculata* was probably introduced to Turkey from Israel, Lebanon, Syria or Iraq in the 1970s.

Kurzfassung: Der Tropische Feigenbohrer, *Batocera rufomaculata* (De Geer, 1775) wird erstmals aus der Türkei gemeldet, und zwar aus der östlichen Mittelmeeregion. Nicht nur die Art, auch der Genus ist neu für die Türkei; auch als Feigenschädling wird die Art in der Türkei erstmals registriert. Aufgrund des gesammelten Materials und aufgrund von Berichten von Feigenanbauern wird geschlossen, daß *B. rufomaculata* in die Türkei wahrscheinlich aus Israel, dem Libanon, Syrien oder dem Irak eingeschleppt wurde.

Key words: *Batocera rufomaculata*, Cerambycidae, fig borer, new record, new pest, alien species, Turkey, Middle East.

Introduction

The Tropical Fig Borer, *Batocera rufomaculata* (De Geer, 1775), has a tropical distribution, extending from southern China through Malaya, India, Sri Lanka, Madagascar and Mauritius to eastern Africa (AVIDOV & HARPAZ 1969, KATBEH-BADER 1996). This pest species was introduced into Israel in 1949 (AVIDOV & HARPAZ 1969) and into Jordan in the 1940s (KATBEH-BADER 1996). Following this, HEYROVSKY (1963) recorded the presence of this species in Jordan in 1957. Although HALPERIN & HOLZSCHUH (1993) indicated that *B. rufomaculata* has been disappearing in Israel since the 1970s, more recently KATBEH-BADER (pers. comm.) found large numbers of the species on figs at some locations in Jordan such as Bani Kananah on the border with Syria. This paper reports the first record of this species in Turkey.

The records

Material (cf. Fig. 2): *Adana province*: Yumurtalık, 22.viii.1982 (leg. M. DOĞANLAR); Kozan, 10.ix.1995 (leg. M. TÜFEKLI). *Osmaniye province*: Kadirli, 5.vii.1996 (leg. H. DAL); Kadirli, 9.x.1998 (leg. H. TEKMAN). *Hatay province*: Gedik (İskenderun), 8.vii.1990 (leg. H. YILMAZ); İskenderun, 12.VII.1990, 5 specimens (leg. U. ERTOK). *İçel province*: Silifke, 4.ix.1998 (leg. F. KOÇ).