Corythucha arcuata (Heteroptera, Tingidae): Evaluation of the pest status in Central Europe and development of strategies to slow the spread (OLBIE)

Euphresco

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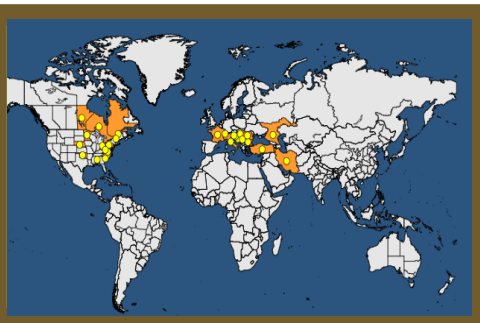

Funding

Non-competitive funding mechanism. Each funder only pays for the participation of their own national researchers. Total funding € 100 000

Research consortium

FR (GB), BFW (AT), SUMFAK (HR), UKZUZ (CZ), ERTI (HU), ICDPP (RO), GOZDIS (SI), INRA (FR)

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Goals

Several European countries already have ongoing research activities underway investigating some of these key issues, and hence the project team will be able to draw upon the expertise of scientists that are already dealing with *Corythucha arcuata*. The key to the project's success will be in effective knowledge-gathering and sharing of information so that gaps in the knowledge can be identified and research areas can be prioritised.

Objectives

The specific questions that will be considered by the consortium will include:

- What are the impacts of this insect pest on oak growth and fecundity, and why is there such variability in the insect's apparent impacts across Europe (i.e. high impacts in Croatia and Hungary, and seemingly low impacts in Italy and Switzerland?)
- What are the key pathways for movement of the insect pest and how can we better protect against the risk of further introductions and wider European spread?
- What are the rates of natural spread, and what are the key human mediated means of dispersal of the pest?
- What are the best survey strategies to try and detect the pest as early as possible?
- What control and management approaches are available, cost-effective and of use in dealing with this pest? Is there scope for biological control? And ultimately is there scope for preventing or limiting spread in the case of successful establishment?

Key outputs and results

Best practice guidelines in pathway management, early detection methodologies, contingency planning, pest risk analyses and developing sustainable management practices.