

### Mini data sheet on *Ceroplastes ceriferus*

Added in 2002 - Deleted in 2005

**Reasons for deletion:**

The PRA (05-11644) concluded that the risk for *Ceroplastes ceriferus* was not significant for the EPPO region. In 2005, it was therefore removed from the EPPO Alert List.

*Ceroplastes ceriferus* (Homoptera, Coccidae) - Japanese or Indian wax scale

Why	<i>Ceroplastes ceriferus</i> came to our attention because of its recent introduction into Italy. It is a highly polyphagous pest which could represent a threat for ornamental plants, and possibly fruit crops.
Where	It occurs in many parts of the world, but until recently it was still absent from Europe. <b>EPPO region:</b> Italy (reported for the first time in 2001 in Lombardia and Veneto on various ornamentals, and then in Emilia-Romagna). <i>C. ceriferus</i> has been intercepted by the Netherlands in 1999 and 2000, on <i>Ficus</i> and <i>Podocarpus</i> from Taiwan. <b>Asia:</b> Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam. <b>Africa:</b> Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda. <b>North America:</b> Mexico, USA (present in many states) <b>Central &amp; South America, Caribbean:</b> Brazil, Chile, Jamaica, Panama, Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands. <b>Oceania:</b> Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Guam, New Caledonia, Papua New Guinea, New Zealand, Tonga, Vanuatu
On which plants	Highly polyphagous (more than 122 plant species in 46 families). It attacks a wide range of crops, mostly fruit crops (e.g. apple, avocado, citrus, fig, pear, plum, quince, <i>Vaccinium</i> and many tropical fruit crops) and ornamentals (e.g. <i>Acer</i> , <i>Berberis</i> , <i>Buxus</i> , <i>Cornus</i> , <i>Deutzia</i> , <i>Euonymus</i> , <i>Ficus</i> , <i>Ilex</i> , <i>Lagerstroemia</i> , <i>Laurus</i> , <i>Magnolia</i> , <i>Platanus</i> , <i>Populus</i> , <i>Pyracantha</i> , <i>Rhododendron</i> , <i>Salix</i> , <i>Viburnum</i> ...)
Damage	<i>C. ceriferus</i> occurs only on stems and branches. The scales can cause dieback of stems and wilting, and reduced vigour of the plants. Severe infestations disfigure plants because of the large numbers of white scales and copious honeydew on which sooty mould develops. <i>C. ceriferus</i> has one generation per year and overwinters as mature females. Mature females are covered with thick white wax, usually with an anteriorly projecting horn of wax. Immature stages (crawlers) are flattened and tiny. In North America, <i>C. ceriferus</i> is considered as a serious pest of ornamentals. It is also reported as a pest of tea in China (Guizhou), of poplars in India (Karnataka) and as a minor pest of avocado in Australia (Queensland).
Dissemination	Immature stages can move over short distances. Over long distances, all stages can be transported on infected plant material.
Pathway	Plants for planting, cut branches and foliage of host plants from countries where <i>C. ceriferus</i> occurs.
Possible risks	<i>C. ceriferus</i> is a highly polyphagous pest, and many of its host plants are grown in Europe for fruit production or ornamental purposes. Its recent introduction into Italy showed that the pest is able to survive in parts of Europe. Although more data is needed on the impact of this scale on fruit crops, it seems that it is more a threat for ornamental crops. Control of scales is usually difficult in practice, although biological control agents exist in other parts of the world, it is not known whether they could reduce populations sufficiently under European conditions.
Source(s)	Bariselli M (2004) Un nuovo pericoloso parassita delle piante ornamentali: la cocciniglia <i>Ceroplastes ceriferus</i> . Agricoltura no. 1 (supplement), January 2004, 4 pp. Servizio fitosanitario, Regione Emilia-Romagna, Bologna, IT. CABI Crop Protection Compendium 2001.

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- Mori, N.; Pellizzari, G.; Tosi, L. (2001) [First record of the wax scale *Ceroplastes ceriferus* (Fabricius) (Hemiptera, Coccoidea) in Italy]. Informatore Fitopatologico, no. 10, 41-43.
- Pellizzari, G.; Galbero, G.; Mori, N.; Antonucci, C. (2004) [Biology of *Ceroplastes ceriferus* (Hemiptera, Coccidae) and trials of control.] Informatore Fitopatologico, no. 9, 39-46.

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