EUROPEAN AND MEDITERRANEAN PLANT PROTECTION ORGANIZATION
ЕВРОПЕЙСКАЯ И СРЕДИЗЕМНОМОРСКАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ПО ЗАЩИТЕ РАСТЕНИЙ
ORGANIZATION EUROPEENNE ET MEDITERRANEENNE POUR LA PROTECTION DES PLANTES

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(anglais seulement)

Report of a Pest Risk Assessment

This summary presents the main features of a pest risk assessment which has been conducted on the pest, according to EPPO Standard PP 5/3(1) Pest Risk Assessment Scheme.

Pest: *Scolytus morawitzi*
PRA area: The European part of the EPPO region
Assessor: EPPO Secretariat
Date: June, 2000

1. INITIATION

1.1 Reason for doing PRA: Study of the risk of forest pests occurring on the territory of the former USSR for the western part of EPPO region

1.2. Taxonomic position of pest: *Scolytus morawitzi* Semenow (Coleoptera: Scolytidae)

2. PROBABILITY OF INTRODUCTION

2.1 Entry

2.1.1 Geographical distribution:
Of limited distribution in EPPO region
Originates in Russia (Larch forests in European and Asian Russia)
Europe: Russia (centre and north of European Russia)
Asia: Russia (Southern Siberia, south of Northern Siberia, Transbaikalia, Far East) and northern Mongolia
North America: Absent
Central America & Caribbean: Absent
South America: Absent
Oceania: Absent

2.1.2 Major host plants:
Attacks only larch: *L. gmelinii* (= *L. dahurica*), *L. olgensis, L. kamtschatica* (= *L. kurilensis* = *L. ochotensis* = *L. middendorfii*), *Larix sibirica* (= *L. altaica* = *L. rossica* = *L. sukaczevii*), *L. x maritima* (= *L. amurensis*) and other larch species present in its natural range.

2.1.3 Which pathway(s) is the pest likely to be introduced on:
S. morawitzi is associated with larch wood. Its eggs, larvae, pupae or adults are very likely to be transported with untreated wood with bark.
In decreasing order of risk, main pathways for *S. morawitzi* may be:

1. Wood with bark
2. Dunnage and packing material

2.2 Establishment

2.2.1 Crops at risk in the PRA All species of *Larix*.

area:

2.2.2 Climatic similarity of present distribution with PRA area (or parts thereof):	Center, east and north of the European part of the EPPO region have a similar climatic conditions with the area of origin and present distribution of the pest.
2.2.3 Aspects of the pest's biology that would favour establishment:	
2.2.4 Characteristics (other than climatic) of the PRA area that would favour establishment:	Host plants are widely distributed within the PRA area. Suitable ecological niches are available throughout the PRA area.
2.2.5 Which part of the PRA area is the endangered area:	The endangered part of the PRA area covers primarily eastern, northern and central parts of the European EPPO region, as well as mountain areas of some other countries.

3. ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT

3.1 Describe damage to potential hosts in PRA area:	*S. morawitzi* attacks stressed, dying or cut trees but can also attack almost healthy trees of different ages at the years of outbreaks. The pest damages the same trees during several consecutive years often causing their death. It prefers to attack mature trees and, even in cases when it does not kill them, the infestation results in significant loss of vigour and of wood marketability. The most severe damage is observed in larch forests previously attacked by *Dendrolimus sibiricus*, *Xylotrechus altaicus* and other pests or damaged by forest fires.
3.2 How much economic impact does the pest have in its present distribution:	*S. morawitzi* is one of important pests of larch in the region of its present distribution. This species prefers to attack mature trees and, even in cases when it does not kill them, the infestation results in significant decrease of wood and seed production as well as loss of wood marketability. Its effects can also be environmental (in destroying natural forests either itself or more often together with other pests it can alter ecological relationships where larch is an important component of the ecosystems) and social (in destroying large trees in towns). The death of forests may have social influence on the people living in damaged areas.
3.3 How much economic impact would the pest have in the PRA area:	Considering the similarity of ecological conditions, the damage to larch in the PRA area should be not less than in the present area of the pest.

4. CONCLUSIONS OF PRA

4.1 Summarize the major factors that influence the acceptability of the risk from this pest:	This pest • comes from an area with similar climatic conditions to the PRA area and causes serious economic damage there; • could easily establish throughout a large part of PRA area; • is the pest of larch trees which are important in some parts of the

	PRA area; • can cause also environmental and social damage.
4.2 Estimate the probability of entry:	medium (5.8 for wood with bark and 5.6 for dunnage and packing material)
4.3 Estimate the probability of establishment:	medium (5.2)
4.4 Estimate the potential economic impact:	medium (5.3)
4.5 Degree of uncertainty	There is little uncertainty in this assessment
5. OVERALL CONCLUSIONS OF THE ASSESSOR	The endangered area is primarily eastern, northern and central parts of the European EPPO region, as well as mountain areas of some other countries. Although the potential economic impact may not be high, since larch is not a major forest tree for the endangered area, the environmental and social effects may be significant in the mountain areas where larch is widely grown and has an important stabilizing effect. *S. morawitzi* should be added to the A2 EPPO list.