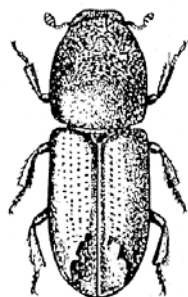02/9328
PPM Point 7.4

Ips hauseri
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:	*Ips hauseri*
PRA area:	The European part of the EPPO region
Assessor:	EPPO Panel on Quarantine Pests for Forestry
Date:	March, 2002

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 the EPPO region

1.2. Taxonomic position of pest: *Ips hauseri* Reitter (Insecta: Coleoptera: Scolytidae)

2. PROBABILITY OF INTRODUCTION

2.1 Entry

2.1.1 Geographical distribution:
Europe: absent
Asia: Russia (Altai Kray), Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan
North America: Absent
Central America & Caribbean: Absent
South America: Absent
Oceania: Absent

2.1.2 Major host plants: spruce, pine and larch, especially *Picea schrenkiana, Larix sibirica, Pinus sylvestris* and *Pinus pallasiana*.

2.1.3 Which pathway(s) is the pest likely to be introduced on: All life stages of *I. hauseri* may be easily transported with any untreated coniferous (mainly spruce, pine and larch) wood commodities, including packing wood, that carry bark.

2.2 Establishment

2.2.1 Crops at risk in the PRA area: Mainly *Pinus sylvestris* but also possibly any species of *Pinus, Picea,* or *Larix*.

2.2.2 Climatic similarity of present distribution with PRA area (or parts thereof): *I. hauseri* is found in mountain forests in central Asian countries, where the climate would be similar to the north and centre of the European part of the EPPO region.

2.2.3 Aspects of the pest's biology that would favour establishment:	This species is known to be able to increase its population numbers very rapidly-
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 is the range of distribution of *Pinus sylvestris* which covers primarily northern and central parts of the Europe as well as mountain areas of some other countries.

3. ECONOMIC IMPACT ASSESSMENT

3.1 Describe damage to potential hosts in PRA area:	The pest may attack slightly stressed and apparently healthy trees of different ages but it prefers to attack mature trees and, even when it does not kill them, the infestation results in significant loss of vigour and decrease of wood and seed production as well as reduction in wood marketability.
3.2 How much economic impact does the pest have in its present distribution:	*I. hauseri* is a very important pest of spruce species in its natural range, but since the introduction of *Pinus sylvestris* into this area in the 1930s, it has also proved to cause serious damage to this species
3.3 How much economic impact would the pest have in the PRA area:	Given the importance of *P. sylvestris* in the PRA area, the consequences of introduction of *I. hauseri* could be major economic loss

4. CONCLUSIONS OF PRA

4.1 Summarize the major factors that influence the acceptability of the risk from this pest:	This pest • could easily be transported on any commodity of wood carrying bark; • could establish throughout a large part of the PRA area; • is a pest of *Pinus sylvestris* which is the most important forest tree in the PRA area; • belongs to the genus *Ips* which contains important forest pests.
4.2 Estimate the probability of entry:	high
4.3 Estimate the probability of establishment:	medium to high
4.4 Estimate the potential economic impact:	medium to high
4.5 Degree of uncertainty	It is not known whether *I. hauseri* could attack the species of *Abies* or *Picea* that occur in the PRA area. If so, the potential importance is greatly increased
5. OVERALL CONCLUSIONS OF THE ASSESSOR	*Ips hauseri* has the necessary characteristics to be transported to the PRA area, to establish there and to cause serious damage to an important forest tree. This pest should be included in the EPPO list.