

## *Arvelius albopunctatus* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae)

This short description has been prepared in the framework of the EPPO Study on Pest Risks Associated with the Import of Tomato Fruit. The whole study can be retrieved from the EPPO website.

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Africa	Asia	Oceania	North America	South-Central America and Caribbean
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### *Arvelius albopunctatus* (Hemiptera: Pentatomidae) (green white spotted bug)

Why	Identified in the EPPO tomato study. It is an important pest of Solanaceae in Brazil (Campos, 2007) and is recorded to have gained importance in the 1990s (Martinez and Folcia, 1999).
Where	<p><b>EPPO region:</b> absent</p> <p><b>North America:</b> USA (Arizona, Florida, Texas) (NDSU, NDa)</p> <p><b>Central America:</b> Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama (NDa)</p> <p><b>South America:</b> Argentina (Misiones, Buenos Aires, Entre Rios – Martinez and Folcia, 1999; Rebagliati et al., 2005), Brazil (CABI CPC). NDSU (NDa) mentions Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Surinam, Uruguay, Venezuela.</p> <p><b>Caribbean:</b> Barbados, Dominican Republic, Puerto Rico (CABI CPC from Shotman, 1989). NDSU (NDa) mentions Antigua, Bahamas, Cuba, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Vincent, Trinidad, US Virgin Islands (St. Croix, St. Thomas)</p>
Climatic similarity	Medium. 7 common climates considering the countries and US states listed above, but possibly lower (occurring in specific areas of the countries mentioned). Neotropical according to Martinez and Folcia (1999).
On which plants	Nymphs and adults feed on fruit and plants in the Solanaceae family, but according to some authors in other families. Tomato ( <i>Solanum lycopersicum</i> ), eggplant ( <i>Solanum melongena</i> ), sweet pepper ( <i>Capsicum annuum</i> ) (CABI CPC). Potato ( <i>Solanum tuberosum</i> ) and a number of wild hosts: <i>Solanum ciliatum</i> , <i>S. bonariense</i> , <i>S. paniculatum</i> , <i>S. variable</i> , <i>S. flagellare</i> , <i>S. acculeatissimum</i> , <i>S. gracile</i> and <i>Datura</i> sp. (Martinez and Folcia, 1999). Martinez and Folcia (1999, citing others) note that some authors mention as host plants beans ( <i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i> ), soja ( <i>Glycine max</i> ), rice ( <i>Oryza sativa</i> ), cotton ( <i>Gossypium</i> ) and tobacco ( <i>Nicotiana tabacum</i> ). Recorded on mango ( <i>Mangifera indica</i> ) in Florida (USA) in 2009 (new plant record - Halbert, 2009 – no details)
Damage	Eggs are laid on the plant. Damage is done by nymphs and adults, feeding on fruit. At the damaged points, depressed areas are formed, which decrease the commercial quality of the tomato fruit. Sucking spots favour entry of secondary infection by pathogens. In Argentina, the duration of the life cycle was approximately 80 days on average (Martinez and Focia, 1999). The pest status of this species is not entirely clear. Martinez and Focia (1999) note that it has secondary importance on tomato but has gained importance in recent years. It is an important pest of Solanaceae, including tomato and potato, in Brazil according to Campos et al. (2007). However, although pest importance is mentioned in the latter two publications, Panizzi and da Silva (2010) mention that its pest status is controversial, and Garlet et al. (2010) consider it a predatory species. It is considered as a quarantine pest in California, where it was intercepted from Florida (CDT, 2009).
Dissemination	Adults fly. Nymphs have legs and walk (but do not fly?). Eggs can be carried on leaves and fruit.
Pathway	Plants for planting, fruits and vegetables of host plants from countries where <i>A. albopunctatus</i> occurs. (Not potato tubers).
Possible risks	Tomato, potato, eggplant and sweet pepper are major crops in the EPPO region. The climatic similarity according to the EPPO Study between the area where it occurs and the EPPO region is medium. It may also establish in glasshouses. It is not clear if control methods are available.
Categorization	None found.
Sources	CABI CPC. 2013.

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