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Tetrops praeusta (L.) (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae), a potential pest?

Thanks to Richard G. Dearborn we were able to examine the collection of beetles of the Maine Forest Service, Department of Conservation, Augusta. Our attention was directed to two small (4-6 mm) cerambycids by their collector, Kimberly Foss. The specimens are cylindrical, black bodied with tan, black tipped, setose elytra and tan legs. One specimen had been taken sitting on a maple leaf at Portland, Maine, and the other was collected by sweeping at Augusta, Maine. Subsequently an additional two specimens were collected in our Malaise trap on the Dearborn property 10 mi. S. Mt. Vernon, Maine.

The specimens were identified as *Tetrops praeusta* (Linnaeus) and the identification was verified by Dr. Ales Smetana of Canada Agriculture.

Yanega (1996: 148, fig. 226) lists *Tetrops praeusta* with the note that "This European species has been collected at scattered localities in the NE and now may be established in NA, so it is included here."

The Maine records from three different localities seem to indicate that the species is indeed established in the northeastern states of the United States. *Tetrops praeusta* has the potential of becoming a pest species as it is known in Europe to feed in twigs of apple and on a variety of other hardwoods, as well as on rose and other shrubs. The species ranges widely in Europe and also occurs in North Africa.

Literature cited

Yanega, D. 1996. Field Guide to Northeastern Longhorned Beetles (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae). Illinois Natural History Survey. Champaign. i-ix + 174 pp.

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