

ON INTERCEPTIONS OF TROPICAL PLATYPODIDAE (COLEOPTERA)  
FROM WOOD IMPORTED INTO ISRAEL\*

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In a survey of xylophagous insects introduced into Israel with the import of logs and wood products, the following beetles of the family Platypodidae have been intercepted (Table 1.)

TABLE 1. SPECIES OF *PLA TYPUS* INTERCEPTED IN ISRAEL,

<i>Species</i>	<i>Infested timber</i>	<i>Common name</i>	<i>Origin</i>
<i>P. curtus</i> Chapuis	<i>Shorea</i> sp. <sup>1</sup>	Meranti	Philippines
<i>P. hintzi</i> Schaufuss	<i>Antiaris toxicaria</i> <sup>2</sup>	Ako	Ivory Coast
<i>P. hintzi</i> Schaufuss	<i>Aucoumea klaineana</i> <sup>2</sup>	Okoume	Nigeria
<i>P. hintzi</i> Schaufuss	<i>Daniellia ogea</i> <sup>2</sup>	Faro	West Africa
<i>P. linearis</i> Chapuis	<i>Antiaris toxicaria</i> <sup>2</sup>	Ako	West Africa
<i>P. linearis</i> Chapuis	<i>Aucoumea klaineana</i> <sup>2</sup>	Okoume	Gabon, Nigeria

1. ex veneer

2. ex. log

3. bred from *Ceratonia siliqua* from Tel Aviv.

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Of the five species, three were intercepted often and in great numbers, in the sapwood of logs imported from West Africa for plywood production. One species was found occasionally in veneer imported from the Philippines, and one species, *P. solidus*, was bred from larvae found in the trunk of a carob tree cut in Tel Aviv. Because of the single record of *P. solidus*, close to a zoo, it was suggested (Halperin, 1976), that the beetles had been introduced from the Far East in a wooden cage in which animals had been transported.

Tropical wood for plywood production has been imported into Israel for many years, yet none of the three species of the platypodid beetles introduced every year in great numbers has been able to establish itself, even though they may find here (as *P. solidus* did) a suitable host-tree for breeding: *P. hintzi* is known to develop also in *Albizzia*, *Celtis*, *Ficus* and *Morus*; *P. linearis* develops occasionally in *Albizzia*; and *P. solutus* may breed in many subtropical trees, such as *Acacia decurrens*, *Eucalyptus* spp., *Grevillea robusta*, *Persea americana* and *Punica granatum* (Schedl, 1962). All these trees are quite common in Israel.

Neither of the only two palaearctic species, *P. cylindrus* F. (which is found also in Turkey and North Africa) and *P. oxyurus* Dufour (which occurs sporadically also in Turkey and Iran) (Balachowsky, 1949), has been found so far in Israel.

Hence, it seems that the danger of establishment of these platypodid beetles introduced into Israel with logs, is very limited.

#### REFERENCES

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