



PEST RECORD - THE NETHERLANDS

First finding of *Umbonia crassicornis* (Amyot & Serville, 1843) (Hemiptera: Homoptera: Membracidae) in The Netherlands

Introduction

This Pest record concerns the first official finding of *Umbonia crassicornis* (Thorn bug) on *Dracaena marginata* in The Netherlands. The bug is found in an indoor production facility (greenhouse), and is probably introduced with plants for planting imported from Florida or Costa Rica. Since the pest will not be able to establish in The Netherlands outdoor, and since the impact of this pest is considered to be low, no measures will be taken.

Pest status: Present, isolated finding on *Dracaena marginata* in greenhouse

Host Plants: *Acacia*, *Cassia*, *Calliandra*, *Albizzia*; *Jacaranda*, *Tajacaranda*, *Hibiscus*.

Geographical distribution: South-America and Southern part of United States of America

Means of movement and dispersal: Plants for planting in international trade

Biology and impact

U. crassicornis may develop 4 generations per year, with 15-50 eggs per female. The adult bug has a thorny structure (see pictures).



U. crassicornis may cause leave damage and defoliation on trees. In case of a high populations, larvae and adults form groups on twigs, branches and stems. Economic damage is not reported. The bug may be able to establish in greenhouses in The Netherlands and in Southern Europe, but can be easily controlled and will not cause severe damage. The impact is considered to be low.

Phytosanitary measures

No measures will be taken, but growers will be informed about this new pest.

References

- Butcher, F.G., 1953. Unusual abundance of the tree-hopper *Umbonia crassicornis* A. & S. Florida Entomologist 36: 57-49.
- Mead, F.W., 2004. Thorn bug. *Umbonia crassicornis* (Amyot and Serville) (Insecta: Hemiptera: Membracidae). Featured creatures, University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences. [thorn bug - Umbonia crassicornis](#)
- Kuitert, L.C., 1958. Insects pests of ornamental plants. University of Florida Agricultural Experiment Station Gainesville, Bulletin 595: 14-15.
- NPPO The Netherlands