

Pest Alert: Red-necked longhorn beetle (*Aromia bungii*)



Fig 1. *Aromia bungii* with characteristic red pronotum © Fera Sciences Ltd



Fig 2. Black necked versions have also been found © Fera Sciences Ltd



Fig 3. Larval frass at the base of a Prunus tree © Don Walker, Fera Sciences Ltd

- ***Aromia bungii*** is a **wood boring** longhorn beetle, that is one of the most destructive pests of ***Prunus* fruit trees (cherry, plum, apricot and peach)**. **Ornamental *Prunus*** species can also be attacked.
- Native to south-eastern Asia, *Aromia bungii* was **first found in Europe in 2008**, with outbreaks in **Italy** and **Germany**. The outbreak near Naples is of particular concern because the outbreak area is quite large (over 20 km wide) and getting larger as the pest continues to spread.
- Importers and growers of *Prunus* should be aware, and **take care when sourcing plant material from Europe**. Importers of products packaged in wood should also be aware as the **beetle larvae can be transported with wood**.

If you suspect the presence of the pest, please inform the relevant authority (see over for details).

For finds at garden centres, plant nurseries or private gardens in England and Wales, contact your local APHA Plant Health and Seeds Inspector, or the PHSI headquarters, in York:

Tel: 0300 1000 313 (please select option 3 when calling)

Email: planthealth.info@apha.gov.uk

For Scotland, contact the Scottish Government's Horticulture and Marketing Unit:

Agricultural crops contact the local RPID officer: <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/farmingrural/Agriculture/AOcontacts/contacts>

For non-agricultural crops, email: hort.marketing@gov.scot

For Northern Ireland, contact the DAERA Plant Health Inspection Branch:

Tel: 0300 200 7847 Email: planthealth@daera-ni.gov.uk

Web: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/plant-and-tree-health>

For additional information on UK Plant Health please see:

<https://planthealthportal.defra.gov.uk/pests-and-diseases/uk-plant-health-risk-register/>

<https://planthealthportal.defra.gov.uk/>

<https://www.gov.uk/plant-health-controls>

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/farmingrural/Agriculture/plant/PlantHealth/PlantDiseases>

<https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk>

For finds in the wider environment:

In GB, please use Tree Alert: <https://treealert.forestresearch.gov.uk/>

For NI, please use TreeCheck: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/about-treecheck>