Forstschutz Aktuell Nr. 59 - Abstracts

First Experiences with Wood Packaging-Inspections in Austria according Implementing Decision 2013/92/EU

Hannes Krehan

Since 1st of April 2013 member states are obliged to implement a new decision of the EU commission concerning import-inspection of wood packaging material (WPM) imported from China with granite stone consignments at fixed frequencies before customs clearance. In the first year, till 14 April 2014, 451 shipments (1.374 containers) were inspected by the Austrian plant protection organization. In 44 cases (9.8 %), non-compliance was reported. In 38 consignments, living stages of Cerambycidae were found, among them *Anoplophora glabripennis*, *Trichoferus campestris* and *Apriona germari*.

The Pine Wood Nematode - a Contingency Plan for Austria

Christian Tomiczek

The Pine Wood Nematode (*Bursaphelenchus xylophilus*) is one of the most dangerous invasive pests in the world. It is native to the American continent, where it causes no damage to native conifers. Its introduction to Japan, China, South Korea, Mexico as well as to Portugal mainland, Spain and Madeira, however, led to tremendous damage. Therefore, all EU member states are obliged by the EU directive 2012/535/EU to issue a contingency plan by the end of 2013. A working group developed the contingency plan for Austria that lists emergency measures in case of a pine wood nematode infestation.

'Herpotrichia' Needle Browning of Silver Fir - An Error and its Revision

Heinz Butin

For many years, the fungus *Nematostoma parasiticum* (syn. *Herpotrichia parasitica*) has been considered to be the cause of 'needle browning' of Silver fir (*Abies alba* Mill.). Recent literature has increasingly expressed doubts in the view taken by Robert Hartig (1884). This paper shows the significance of the true causal agent, a *Rhizoctonia* species, which is substantiated by the first proof of the corresponding perfect stage. *Herpotrichia parasitica* is interpreted to be a hyperparasite within the needle browning complex of Silver fir.

Rosellinia mycophila - Damage to Plants of Norway Spruce

Thomas L. Cech

Rosellinia mycophila is a fungal species, which occurs sporadically as a facultative parasite of conifers in Austria. The fungus covers young plants of conifers, mostly Norway spruces (*Picea abies*), with an aerial mycelium covering needles and twigs and causing needle blight and death of twigs. In 2013, *R. mycophila* was reported from a nursery in Upper Austria on Norway spruces. Differences in symptom development between *R. mycophila* and black snow mould are described, predisposing factors are compared and control measures for *R. mycophila* are given.

Feeding Damage on Beech Plants by Swift Moth (Lepidoptera, Hepialidae) Larvae in Central Franconia

Sebastian Gößwein

Significant mortality in plantings of beech under pine stands was observed in the area of Roth, Central Franconia, in 2012. Feeding damage on roots was caused by larvae of swift moths (Hepialidae). Soil samples in differently damaged stands showed that two species occurred. The first one is gold swift (*Phymatopus hecta* L.). On a total of 24 m² of sampled area, 19 specimens were found. The second species was considerably more abundant (178 specimens found); moreover, these larvae occurred in three different sizes. A definitive identification of this species has not been possible, yet. Four species are considered, the mapwinged swift (*Korscheltellus fusconebulosa* DeGeer), the orange swift (*Triodia sylvina* L.), *Pharmacis carna* (Denis & Schiffermüller), and the common swift (*Korscheltellus lupulina* L.). The numbers of larvae in the soil differed markedly among the sampling areas and ranged from ten to 101 caterpillars per 6 m².

Bark beetle situation in Bavaria 2013: Increasing densities of *Ips typographus* and *Pityogenes chalcographus* and increasing damage in 2013, higher risk for 2014

Cornelia Triebenbacher

After several years without major damage, the bark beetle situation in Bavaria became more severe in 2013: damage by *Ips typographus* doubled to 500.000 m³, damage by *Pityogenes chalcographus* increased by 10.000 m³ to 37.000 m³. Swarming of *I. typographus* in April-May 2013 stretched over an extended period due to cold and wet spring weather. When the first generation emerged in mid July to early August, conditions where warm and dry. This was reflected in high numbers of

swarming beetles and attack of standing trees. Due to the mild autumn, broods were able to complete development and overwinter as immature beetles.

Outbreak of the grasshopper *Miramella* sp. in south-eastern Styria

Andreas Pfister and Andreas Schmidl

An outbreak of the grasshopper *Miramella* sp. was detected in mixed forest with a high share of deciduous trees on an area of 14 hectare in south-eastern Styria in summer 2012. Adult grasshoppers were feeding not only on ground vegetation (eg. blueberry) but also on leafs of shrubs and trees, such as beech, oak, lime and birch. Some trees were nearly defoliated by *Miramella*.

20.08.14 | Autor: Steyrer, G.