1. PaDIL Species Factsheet

Scientific Name:
*Pachymerus cardo* Fåhraeus
(Coleoptera: Chrysomelidae: Bruchinae: Pachymerini)

Common Name
palm seed borer

Image Library
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- Department of Agriculture, Water and the Environment
- Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development, Western Australia
- Plant Health Australia
- Museums Victoria
2. Species Information

2.1. Details

**Specimen Contact:** Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia -
**Author:** Warren, W.
**Citation:** Warren, W. (2006) palm seed borer (*Pachymerus cardo*) Updated on 8/22/2013 Available online: PaDIL - http://www.padil.gov.au
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2.2. URL


2.3. Facets

**Status:** Exotic species - absent from Australia
**Group:** Beetles
**Commodity Overview:** Field Crops and Pastures
**Commodity Type:** Grains, Ornamentals
**Distribution:** Central and South America, Africa

2.4. Other Names

*Bruchus cardo* Fahraeus 1839
*Pachymerus nucleorum* Fabricius
*palm fruit borer*
*palm kernel borer*

2.5. Diagnostic Notes

The adult is 9-11 mm long and 5-6.5 mm wide. The body is black covered by short, dense, uniform, greyish-brown, fine pubescence. Eyes approximate in front, emarginate, antennae serrate from 5th segment. Pronotum semicircular, lateral margins rounded, lateral carina complete, prosternal process long and broad. Femora very wide, strongly incrassate, with large basal denticle followed by a row of small denticles ending with 3 usually larger apical denticles. Femur does not show sexual dimorphism. Hind tibia strongly arcuate, basal tarsal segment explanate.

Male pygidium inflexed, feebly sinuate laterally and truncate apically. In the female, it is plain, more strongly narrowed to apex, and rounded apically.

Eggs are oval in shape, they are translucent white, 1 mm long and 0.5 mm wide. They are laid singly and are glued to the surface of the kernels by a colourless secretion which can be observed by acid fuschin stain.

Larvae are scarabaeoid in form. They develop in the kernel until fully grown. Pupae develop in a silky cocoon which projects through the hole made by the larvae.

For establishing the presence of *Pachymerus* larvae and pupae the palm seeds should be immersed in water and the ones staying afloat are likely infested or not viable for other reason.

2.6. References


2.7. Web Links

nucleotide sequence: http://www.ebi.uniprot.org/entry/Q6TP81
3. Diagnostic Images

DAFWA Specimen 2006
**Dorsal view:** Willow Warren Department of Agriculture and Food WA

DAFWA Specimen 2006
**Elytra:** Willow Warren Department of Agriculture and Food WA

DAFWA Specimen 2006
**Head front view:** Willow Warren Department of Agriculture and Food WA

DAFWA Specimen 2006
**Head side view:** Willow Warren Department of Agriculture and Food WA

DAFWA Specimen 2006
**Hind Leg view:** Willow Warren Department of Agriculture and Food WA

DAFWA specimen 2006
**Lateral view:** Willow Warren Department of Agriculture and Food WA
DAFWA Specimen 2006
Posterior view: Willow Warren Department of Agriculture and Food WA

DAFWA Specimen 2006
Pronotum: Willow Warren Department of Agriculture and Food WA

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