

Adventive and native Byrrhidae (Coleoptera) newly recorded from Prince Edward Island, Canada

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Abstract

The Palearctic byrrhids *Chaetophora spinosa* (Rossi) and *Simplocaria semistriata* (F.) are reported for the first time from Prince Edward Island (PEI), the former species for the first time from Atlantic Canada from specimens collected in 2003–05. Their presence is discussed both in light of the history of introductions of exotic species in Atlantic Canada in general, and on PEI in particular, and also in the context of the effect of adventive species on native organisms and ecosystems. These discoveries underscore the need for continual monitoring of invertebrate populations to detect ongoing introductions of adventive species. The native byrrhid *Cytilus alternatus* (Say) is also reported for the first time from PEI.

Key words: Coleoptera, Byrrhidae, Chaetophora, Simplocaria, Cytilus, Canada, Prince Edward Island, biodiversity, adventive species

Introduction

Atlantic Canada has long been recognized as a point of introduction for many exotic species of Coleoptera. Brown (1940, 1950, 1967) reported 76 Palearctic beetle species from Atlantic Canada. Lindroth (1954, 1955, 1957, 1963) discussed this topic at length and reported many species of Palearctic Carabidae. Johnson (1990), Bousquet (1992), Hoebeke and Wheeler (1996a, 1996b, 2000, 2003), Wheeler & Hoebeke (1994), and Majka & Klimaszewski (2004) all added additional species. Unfortunately the Coleoptera of Prince Edward Island (PEI) have been poorly investigated with Bousquet (1991) reporting only 340 species of beetles from the province.

There have been few published accounts of adventive Coleoptera from PEI: *Coccinella u. undecimpunctata* L. (Coccinellidae), *Geotrupes stercorarius* L.