

# 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](mailto:planthealth.info@apha.gov.uk)

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

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

Email: [hort.marketing@gov.scot](mailto:hort.marketing@gov.scot)

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

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

Tel: 0300 200 7847

Email: [planthealth@daera-ni.gov.uk](mailto:planthealth@daera-ni.gov.uk)

Web: [www.daera-ni.gov.uk](http://www.daera-ni.gov.uk)

**For finds in the wider environment:**

<https://treealert.forestresearch.gov.uk/>