

ATTENTION



The chestnut gall wasp

Description

Dryocosmus Kuriphilus Yasumatsu (chestnut gall wasp) is a hymenopteran of the Cynipidae family harmful on chestnuts that was accidentally introduced in Europe in 2002 and in 2009 it was observed in the Marche Region, in the provinces of Pesaro Urbino and of Ascoli Piceno. Afterwards it spread in the rest of the chestnut-growing areas

Host plants

Exclusively the genus *Castanea* is attacked by the insect. In Italy the insect was reported both on the European Chestnut (*Castanea sativa*), wild and grafted, as well as on euro-japanese hybrids.

Symptoms and damages

The galls appear on buds, leaves and inflorescences at vegetative flush. Sizes vary from 5 to 20 mm. At the beginning of the infestation the few present galls are hardly detectable; later on, already from the first vegetative renewal stages, the Cynipidae population increases and the galls are more evident.

At late season galls turn to reddish; in autumn they are nearly scorched and remain attached to the branches till the following spring when they are recognizable.

What's in case of suspected occurrence?

In case of suspected symptoms do **immediately inform** the Regional Plant Protection Organization:

1. contact the closest office of the Regional Plant Protection Organization by e-mail or telephone (providing name, surname, address, telephone number, e-mail and exact detection site);
2. if possible, do catch the insect and conserve it soaked in alcohol in a closed vial;
3. if possible, to be sure not to have confused it with other insects, do send a photograph to fit@assam.marche.it;
4. it is forbidden to transport **alive insects** or **infested plants**.

Marche Region Plant Protection Organization - ASSAM Via dell'industria 1- Osimo (AN)

email: fit@assam.marche.it	web : www.assam.marche.it/fitosanitario	
Main headquarter and Province of Ancona:	☎ 071-8081	☎ 071-85979
Provinces of Ascoli Piceno and Fermo:	☎ 0735-654131	☎ 0735-654131
Province of Macerata:	☎ 0733-233771	☎ 0733-272380
Province of Pesaro and Urbino:	☎ 0721-891663	☎ 0721-878258

