



REGIONE  
MARCHE



AGENZIA SERVIZI SETTORE AGROALIMENTARE DELLE MARCHE

Regional Plant Protection Organization

# ATTENTION !



## The Red Palm Weevil threatens the palms in our parks

### Description

The **red palm weevil**, *Rhynchophorus ferrugineus* (Olivier) is an Asian pest, which can damage several palm varieties: **date, coconut and areca palms** and others. It entered Europe by imported palm trees and it was observed in all member states of the Mediterranean basin, including Italy, creating concern on the future of Italian palms and those of the Marche Region.

### Symptoms and Damages

*R. ferrugineus* are detectable only at the late infestation stages. The first symptoms are a vertical asymmetry followed by a falling apical corona so to assume the typical open umbrella shape. At the last stages the palm looks "pollarded".

### Main potential host plants:

Particularly sensitive plants are those with a trunk base diameter greater than 5 cm of the species: *Areca catechu*, *Arecastrum romanzoffianum* (Cham) Becc, *Arenga pinnata*, *Borassus flabellifer*, *Brahea armata*, *Butia capitata*, *Calamus merillii*,

*Caryota maxima*, *Caryota cumingii*, *Chamaerops humilis*, *Cocos nucifera*, *Corypha gebanga*, *Corypha elata*, *Elaeis guineensis*, *Howea forsteriana*, *Jubea chilensis*, *Livistona australis*, *Livistona decipiens*, *Metroxylon sagu*, *Oreodoxa regia*, *Phoenix canariensis*, *Phoenix dactylifera*, *Phoenix theophrasti*, *Phoenix sylvestris*, *Sabal umbraculifera*, *Trachycarpus fortunei* and *Washingtonia* spp.

### What's in case of suspected occurrence?

In case of suspected occurrence do **immediately inform** the Regional Plant Protection Organisation:

1. contact the closest office of the Regional Plant Protection Organization by e-mail or telephone (providing your name, surname, address, telephone number, e-mail and exact detection site)
2. if possible, do catch the beetle 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](mailto: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: <a href="mailto:fit@assam.marche.it">fit@assam.marche.it</a>		web : <a href="http://www.assam.marche.it/fitosanitario">www.assam.marche.it/fitosanitario</a>	
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	

