





# Technical Bulletin for: **RED PALM WEEVIL**

*Rhynchophorus ferrugineus* (Olivier) • Coleoptera, Curculionidae • RHYFER



<b>DISTRIBUTION</b>	Native to Southeast Asia; also found in Middle East, North Africa, Europe, Oceania, the Caribbean, and Southwestern United States.
<b>HOSTS</b>	Palms (especially stressed trees), sugarcane and agave.
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	
<b>Adult Moth</b>	Very large beetle 35 to 40 mm long, with long, slender rostrum (snout) the female uses to penetrate palm tissue to deposit eggs. Extremely variable coloration, most commonly reddish-brown or darker with a red streak the length of the pronotum.
<b>Larvae</b>	Pale yellow grub with a brown head.
<b>Eggs</b>	Creamy white, long oval in shape. About 1/10 in. (2.6 mm) long and 1/25 in. (1.1 mm) wide.
<b>LIFE HISTORY</b>	Females lay 58 to 531 eggs in wounds in palm tissue, from the collar region near the roots up to the base of frond petioles and axils near the crown. Eggs hatch in about 1-6 days. Larvae feed on surrounding palm tissue boring to the center of the palm. Larvae may pass through 3 to 7 instars over 2 months, then pupate in cocoons for 11 to 45 days inside the palm truck or in concealed places at the base of palm fronds. In Egypt it is estimated RPW can have up to 21 generations per year.

## MONITORING INFORMATION

<b>LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE &amp; FIELD LIFE</b>	90% 4-methyl-5-nananol, 10% 4-methyl-5-nananone in a Coaster Lure Packet. Lure Longevity: 30-65 days	
<b>TRAP TO USE</b>	 <p>Large Bucket Trap</p>	In addition to pheromone lure, soft fruits and 0.5 liter of water in bucket bottom or ethyl-acetate hung under the trap lid as kairomone (or food attractant) can be added. A non-repellent granular insecticide is placed on top of food bait. Lure is hung from the lid by a wire inside bucket.
<b>MONITORING STRATEGY</b>	Bury the lower half of trap in the ground between palm trees. Density: 1 trap per hectare or 100 trees to detect peak emergence periods and to estimate populations. To locate source of infestation place 3 traps per 200 tree farm, 4 traps in a 300 tree farm, etc. Inspect traps weekly. Replace insecticide-treated dry date fruits and add water as needed. Remove debris from the traps.	

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Alpha Scents, Inc., 360 S. Sequoia Pkwy. Canby, OR 97013  
TEL: 503-342-8611 • FAX: 314-271-7297 • sales@alphascents.com • www.alphascents.com