

Study of Bark Beetle (Coleoptera, Scolytidae) Pathogens from Coniferous stands in Bulgaria

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Abstract: The pathogen species composition and distribution in a variety of bark beetle species from different coniferous stands was investigated. Seven pathogen species were recovered: *I. typographus* Entomopoxvirus (ItEPV), *Malamoeba scolyti*, *Gregarina typographi*, *Menzbieria chalcographi*, *Chytridiopsis typographi*, *Nosema*-like microsporidium and *Beauveria bassiana*. *Nosema*-like microsporidium, *M. chalcographi* and *M. scolyti* are new reports for the Bulgarian fauna. *I. sexdentatus*, *Pityophthorus pityographus*, *Cryphalus saltuarius*, *Orthotomicus proximus* and *Polygraphus subopacus* are newly reported hosts for *B. bassiana*, *M. scolyti*, *Chytridiopsis cf. typographi* and *Gregarina cf. typographi* respectively. *G. typographi* appears to have the broadest host range the beetles we examined, followed by *C. typographi*, *M. chalcographi*. *M. scolyti* and *Nosema*-like microsporidium appear to have narrower host ranges.

Key words: Bulgaria, bark beetles, pathogens, infections, *Ips typographus*, *I. sexdentatus*, *I. acuminatus*, *Pytiogenes chalcographus*, *Orthotomicus proximus*, *Polygraphus subopacus*, *Pityophthorus pityographus*, *Cryphalus saltuarius*, *Hylurgus ligniperda*