

Preface

The introduction and outbreak of mass ash-killer *Agrilus planipennis* in North America predetermined our lives and brought me and my wife Janka to Canada. Actually, our arrival to Ottawa was closely followed with the arrival of this pest, so we saw for ourselves how this tiny Asian beetle had been killing nearly all urban ashes in a single season. Quite recently, the second invasion center appeared in Moscow region and is spreading towards Europe. It is a question of time and Europeans will encounter the same environmental disaster which currently ruins ashes in North America.

Agrilus planipennis is not alone but has some 3,000 congeners assembled in the world most speciose genus *Agrilus*. This book wants to contribute by a small piece to the mosaic of knowledge on these significant insects by providing the compilation of all published trophic relations of *Agrilus* species-group taxa. Unlike few works with the regional focus, this book is the first which covers *Agrilus* worldwide and provides the critical analysis of published host plant associations based on the newly proposed methodology distinguishing between original and subsequent records and assessing the host plant association credibility.

The core of the book consists of two lists. The first is the alphabetical list of *Agrilus* species-group taxa, each accompanied with all recorded host plants. Second is the systematic list of cited host plants with all reported *Agrilus* species-group taxa. All recorded scientific names, valid or invalid, are cited in two, *Agrilus* and plant, indices.

Ottawa, Canada
13 May 2014

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Host Plants of World Agrilus (Coleoptera, Buprestidae)

A Critical Review

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2014, LXIII, 706 p. 88 illus., 86 illus. in color., Hardcover

ISBN: 978-3-319-08409-1