

CENTRO AGRONOMICO TROPICAL DE INVESTIGACION Y ENSEÑANZA  
Program of Annual Crops  
CATIE

// PROVISIONAL LIST OF INSECT AND MITE PESTS OF  
FOOD CROPS IN CENTRAL AMERICA

✓  
A.B.S. King

Second part of the progress report of the entomologist  
attached to the CATIE cropping systems programme to the  
Ministry of Overseas Development of the UK Government.

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### SUMMARY

This paper presents a provisional list of common insect and mite pests found by the author on some crops grown by small farmers in Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Honduras from 1975 to 1977. Details of the regions where they were found and of the type of damage are included for the following crops: maize, vigna, sweet potato, cassava, curcubitae, tomato and egg-plant, dasheen and pigeon pea. Although this list is incomplete, it was nevertheless considered useful in giving a working base, and to serve as a provisional index to the insect pest reference collection at CATIE.

This publication forms the second part of the progress report of the entomologist, attached to the CATIE small farmer cropping systems programme, for the UK government Ministry for Overseas Development.

### RESUMEN

Se presenta una lista provisional de las plagas más comunes, encontradas por el autor, en algunos cultivos producidos por pequeños agricultores en Costa Rica, Nicaragua y Honduras desde 1975 hasta 1977. Se incluye información de las regiones donde se los ha encontrado y del tipo de daño causado en los siguientes cultivos: maíz, frijol, caupí, camote, yuca, repollo, rábano, pepino, tomate y berenjena, taro y gandúl. Esta lista no es completa, sin embargo se considera que podría ser una base útil para el trabajo de entomología y servir como índice provisional para la colección de referencia de insectos del CATIE.

Esta publicación es la segunda parte del informe de progreso del autor, quien trabaja para el programa de Sistemas de Cultivos para Pequeños Agricultores del CATIE; para el Ministerio de Desarrollo Ultramarino del Gobierno de Gran Bretaña.

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\* Ph.D., Entomologist, CATIE

\*\* Second part of the progress report of the entomologist attached to the CATIE cropping systems programme submitted to the Ministry of Overseas Development of the U.K. Government.

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PROVISIONAL LIST OF INSECT AND MITE PESTS OF  
FOOD CROPS IN CENTRAL AMERICA\*

A.B.S. King\*\*

1. INTRODUCTION

Insects found damaging crop plants in the areas visited in Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Honduras were collected, larvae reared to adult where possible and specimens sent to the Commonwealth Institute of Entomology or to the Systematic Entomology Laboratory, USDA, Florida for identification. Basic biological data were recorded and specimens mounted for the CATIE reference collection.

Major and/or important pests are marked with an asterisk. Those marked CA (Central America) are known to be well distributed through out the region. The letters CR, Nic, Hond, indicate the countries (Costa Rica, Nicaragua and Honduras) where this insect was found damaging a specific crop but does not necessarily mean geographical restriction to that country. Altitude or climate specific pests are so indicated meaning greater abundance at, not necessarily restriction to that altitude or climatic zone. The part of the crop attacked is indicated by the following key:

Leaves (L), Steam cut (C), Roots (R), Tubers (T), Stem-borer (S), Fruit or seed (F), Shoot borer (Sh), Virus transmission (V), Flowers (Fls)

2. LIST OF PESTS

2.1 MAIZE (Zea mays) Mais

Lepidoptera

<i>Agrotis ipsilon</i> Hufn.	(Noctuidae)	C.A.	C.
<i>A. subterranea</i> F.		C.A.	C.
<i>Heliothis zea</i> Boddie		C.A.	F
<i>Mocis latipes</i> (Gn)		Hond.	L
* <i>Spodoptera frugiperda</i> Smith & Abbott		C. A.	CLF

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<i>S. sunia</i> Gn.		C.A.	4000 ft.	L
<i>Diatraea lineolata</i> Wlk.	(Pyralidae)	C.A.		S
<i>D. guatemalensis</i> Schaus		C.R.		S
<i>Elasmopalpus lignosellus</i> Zeller		C.A.		S, Sh

Hemiptera

<i>Aphis maidis</i> (Fitch)	(Aphididae)	C.A.	L
<i>Cyrtomenus</i> sp	(Cynidae)	C.R.	R
<i>Dalbulus maidis</i> (Delong & W.)	(Cicadellidae)	Nic.	LV

Coleoptera

<i>Anomala cincta</i> Say.	(Scarabaeidae)	C.A.	R
<i>A. discoidalis</i> Bates		C.R.	R
<i>A. forminosa</i> Bates		C.R., Hond.	R
<i>Cyclocephala lunulata</i> Burm.		C.R.	R
<i>Ligyrus nasutus</i> Burm.		Nic.	R
* <i>Phyllophaga</i> sp (S 23A)		C.A.	R
<i>Ph. obsoleta</i> Blanch.		C.R.	6000 ft. R
* <i>Ph. parvisetis</i> ?		C.A.	low rainfall R
* <i>Diabrotica balteata</i> (LeConte) (Chrysomelidae)	C.A.		LR
<i>D. porracea</i> Har.		C.R.	6000 ft. LR
<i>D. viridula</i> (F)		C.R.	L
<i>Epitrix</i> sp.		C.R.	L
<i>Metachroma variabile</i> Jac.		Nic.	L
<i>Colopterus posticus</i> (Er.)	(Nitidulidae)	C.R.	F
<i>C. stenoides</i> Murr.		C.R.	F

2.2 BEANS (*Phaseolus vulgaris*) Frijol, (*Vigna sinensis*) caupiLepidoptera

* <i>Agrotis ipsilon</i> Hufn.	(Noctuidae)	C.A.	C
* <i>A. subterranea</i> F.		C.A.	C
<i>Spodoptera eridania</i> Stoll.		C.R. Low rainfall	CL
<i>S. frugiperda</i> (Sm. & Abb.)		C.A.	C
<i>Lamprosema indicata</i> (F)	(Pyralidae)	Hond.	L
<i>Maruca testulalis</i> Geyer		C.R.	F
* <i>Estigmene acraea</i> Ivory	(Arctiidae)	Hond.	LF
<i>Urbanus</i> sp nr <i>esmeraldus</i> Butler	(Hesperiidae)	C.R.	L

Hemiptera

<i>Aphis fabae</i> (Scop)	(Aphididae)	C.R.	L
<i>Myzus persicae</i> (Sulzer)		C.R. (4000 ft)	L
* <i>Empoasca</i> sp. sensu lat.	(Cicadellidae)	C.A. (C.R.)	L
<i>Spissistilus festina</i> (Say)	(Membracidae)	C.R.	L
<i>Stricticephala</i> sp.? <i>bubalus</i> (Fabr)		C.R.	L(R)
<i>Strictolobus</i> sp.		C.R.	L
<i>Halticus bracteatus</i> (Say.)	(Miridae)	C.R., Hond.	L
<i>Prepops latipennis</i> (Stål)			L
<i>Nezara viridula</i> (L)	(Pentatomidae)	C.A.	FL

Coleoptera

<i>Altica</i> sp	(Chrysomelidae)	Nic
<i>Ceratome atrofasciata</i>		Hond. Nic. Low rain- LV CR(NW) fall
<i>C. ruficornis</i> (Oliv.)		C.A. Low rainfall LV
<i>C. ruficornis rogersi</i> Jac.		C.R. high rainfall LV
<i>C. salvini</i>		C.R. (SW) L
<i>Diabrotica adelpha</i> Har.		C.R. LV

<i>D. balteata</i> (Le Conte)	C.A.	LV
<i>D. nigrofasciata</i> Jac.	(Guat)	L
<i>D. octoplagiata</i> Jac.	Nic.	L
<i>D. pulchella</i> Jac.	C.R.	L
<i>D. variabilis</i> Jac.	C.R.	L
<i>Diphaulaca</i> nr. <i>panamae</i> Barber	C.R. (SW), Nic.	LR
<i>Nodonota</i> spp	C.A.	L
<i>Paranapiacaba waterhousei</i> (Jac)	C.R.	L
<i>Promecosoma viride</i> Lef.	Nic.	L
<i>Systema S-littera</i> (L)	C.R.	LV
<i>Exophthalmus jekelianus</i> White	(Curculionidae) C.R.	L
(*) <i>Aplon godmani</i> (Wagner)	(Aploniidae) Hond., Nic.	F
<i>Phyllophaga</i> spp	(Scarabaeidae) C.A.	R
(*) <i>Epilachna varivestis</i> Muls.	(Coccinellidae) (El Salvador) C.A.	L
<u>Hymenoptera</u>		
<i>Atta</i> spp (Cowpea only)	(Formicidae) C.R.	L
<i>Solenopsis geminata</i> group	C.R.	Ring-barking

Diptera

<i>Hylemya platura</i> (Meyer)	(Anthomyiidae) C.R.	Sh
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Acarri

<i>Oligonychus</i> sp	(Tetranychidae) C.R.	L
<i>Polyphagotarsonemus latus</i>	(Tarsonemidae) C.R.	L

2.3 SWEET POTATO (*Ipomoea batatas*) Camote

Lepidoptera

<i>Agrius cingulatus</i> F.	(Sphingidae) C.R.	L
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<i>Agrotis epsilon</i> Hufn.	(Noctuidae)	C.A.	L,C
<i>A. repleta</i> Walk.		C.R.	L,C
<i>A. subterranea</i> F.		C.A.	L,C
<i>Bleptina confusalis</i> Gn.		C.R.	L
<i>Eriopyga</i> spp.		C.R.	L
<i>Monodes deltoides</i> Möschl.		C.R.	L
<i>M. nucleolaria</i> Gn.		C.R.	L
<i>Spodoptera dolichos</i> F.		C.R.	L
<i>S. eridania</i> Stoll.		C.R.	L
<i>S. latifascia</i> Walk		C.R.	L
<i>Trichopluga ni</i> Hb.		C.A.	L
<i>Ecpanthenia caudata</i> Walk.	(Arctiidae)	C.R.	L
<i>Estigmene columbiana</i> Roths.		C.R.	L
<i>Compacta hirtalis</i> Gn.	(Pyralidae)	C.R.	ST
<i>Megastes</i> sp.		C.R.	S
* <i>Polygrammodes elevata</i> F.		C.R.	ST
<u>Hemiptera</u>			
Complex of Cicadellidae:			
<i>Empoasca</i> , <i>Tylozygus</i> , <i>Catagonia</i> spp.		C.A.	L
<u>Coleoptera</u>			
<i>Diabrotica adelpha</i> Har.	(Chrysomelidae) C.A.		L
<i>D. balteata</i> (Le Conte)		C.R.	L
<i>Typhorus chalceus</i> Jac.		C.R.	L
(* <i>T. nigritus</i> (F))		C.R.	L,T
<i>Stenogra histria</i> Serv.	(Cerambycidae) Hond.		S
(* <i>Rhyssomatus subcostatus</i> Fahr.) (Curculionidae) C.R.			T,S

(\*) *Phyllophaga* spp. (Scarabaeidae) C.R. R

Hymenoptera

(\*) *Atta* spp. (Formicidae) C.R. L

2.4 CASSAVA (*Manihot utilissima*) Yuca

Lepidoptera

*Erynnis alope* Drury (Sphingidae) C.R. L

*E. ello* L. C.R. L

*Agrotis ipsilon* Hfn. (Noctuidae) C.R. C

Diptera

✓*Anastrepha manihoti* Costa Lima (Tephritidae) C.R. S

*Silba? perezi* Rom. & Rup. (Lonchaeidae) C.R. Sh

*Eudiplosis brasiliensis* Rubsaamen (Cecidomyiidae) C.A. L

Hymenoptera

(\*) *Atta* sp (Formicidae) C.A. L

Coleoptera

*Phyllophaga* spp (Scarabaeidae) C.A. T

2.5 RICE (*Oryza Sativa* Arroz)

Lepidoptera

*Rupela albiniella* (Cram) (Pyralidae) C.R. S

Hemiptera

\* *Blissus leucopterus* Say (Lygaeidae) C.R. R

*Draeculacephala* sp. (Cicadellidae) C.R. L

*Hortensia similis* (Walk) C.R. L

*Collaria oleosa* (Dist.) (Miridae) C.R. L

*Garganus albidivittis* Stal C.R. L

*Ollarus* sp (Cixiidae) C.R. L

**2.6 CRUCIFERAE** (*Brassica oleracea*; *B. chinensis*, *Raphanus* sp.) Repollo - rábanos

Lepidoptera

(*) <i>Ascia monuste</i> L.	(Pieridae)	C.R.	L
(*) <i>Leptophobia eleusis</i> Lucas		C.R.	L
<i>Agrotis subterranea</i> F.		C.A.	L
(*) <i>Trichoplusia ni</i> Hb	(Noctuidae)	C.R., Hond.	L
<i>Hellula fidealis</i> Walk.	(Pyralidae)	C.R.	T,S, petoles
* <i>Plutella maculipennis</i> (Curtis) (Yponomeutidae)	C.A.		L

Hemiptera

(*) <i>Lipaphis erysimi</i> (Kattenbach) (Aphididae)	C.A.	L
<i>Myzus persicae</i> (Sulzer)	(Aphididae)	C.R.

**2.7 CUCURBITAEAE** (*Cucurbita moschata*, *Cucumis sativus*) Ayote, Pepino, etc.

Lepidoptera

(*) <i>Diaphania hyalinata</i> L.	(Pyralidae)	C.R.	S,F
* <i>D. nitidalis</i> (Stoll)		C.A.	S,F
<i>Melittia cucurbitae</i> (Harris)	(Sesiidae)	C.R.	S

Coleoptera

<i>Phyllophaga</i> spp	(Scarabaeidae)		R
<i>Acalymma coruscum</i> (Har)	(Chrysomelidae)	C.R., Hond.	L, Fls.
<i>A. themel</i> (Baley)		C.R.	L, Fls
<i>A. vittata</i> F.		C.R.	L, Fls
<i>Diabrotica edelpha</i> Har.		C.R.	L, Fls
<i>D. balteata</i> (Le Conte)		C.A.	L, Fls
<i>Paranapiacaba waterhousei</i> (Jac.)		C.R.	L, Fls
<i>Epilachna borealis</i> (F)	(Coccinellidae)	C.A.	L

Hemiptera

Anasa andresi Guer.	(Coreidae)	C.R.	L
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SOLANACEAE (*Lycopersicon esculentum*; *Solanum melongena*) Tomate, Berengena

Lepidoptera

<i>Agrotis subterranea</i> F.	(Noctuidae)	C.A.	C
<i>Heliothis zea</i> Boddie		C.A.	F
<i>Spodoptera frugiperda</i> (Sm. & Abb.)		C.A.	F
<i>S. latifascia</i> Walk.		C.R., Hond.	F,L
<i>S. sunia</i> Gn.		C.R.	F,L
<i>Trichoplusia ni</i> Hb.		C.R. Hond.	L

Coleoptera

<i>Chaetocnema</i> sp.		C.A.	L
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Hemiptera

<i>Myzus persicae</i> (Sulz)	(Aphididae)	C.A.	L
<i>Phtia picta</i> (Drury)	(Coreidae)	C.R., Hond.	F,L
<i>Halticus bracteatus</i> (Say)	(Miridae)	C.R., Hond.	L

Acarina

<i>Oligomychus</i> sp?	(Tetranychidae)	C.R.	L
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2.8 L. DASHEEN (*Calocasia esculenta*) Taro

Hemiptera

<i>Corythucha gossypii</i> (Fabr.)	(Tingidae)	C.R.	L
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2.9 PIGEON PEA (*Cajanus cajan*) Gandul

Lepidoptera

<i>Anticarsia gemmatalis</i> (Huba)	(Noctuidae)	C.R.	L
<i>Heliothis virescens</i> (F)		C.R.	F
<i>Maruca testulalis</i> Geyer	(Pyralidae)	C.R.	F

Hemiptera

<b>Leptoglossus zonatus</b> (Dallas)	(Coreidae)	C.R.	L.F
<b>Euschistus crenator</b> (Fabr.)	(Pentatomidae)	C.R	L.F
<b>Nezara viridula</b> (L.)		C.R.	L.F

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