

# Factsheet *Bactrocera latifrons* (Hendel)

Original name: *Chaetodacus latifrons* Hendel, 1915: 425.

Vernacular name: Solanum fruit fly

## Formal redescription (provided by I.M. White)

Wing length, 4.4-6.1 mm.

Head. Pedicel+1st flagellomere not longer than ptilinal suture. Face, antennal furrow with a dark spot. Frons, frontal setae 2, orbital seta 1.

Thorax. Scutum black; postpronotal lobe yellow; notopleural callus yellow; notopleural xanthine absent; lateral postsutural vitta present; medial postsutural vitta absent. Scutellum without any dark patterning (except for basal dark margin). Anepisternum with a stripe from notopleural callus to (or almost to) katepisternum, extended onto katepisternum; stripe very broad (anteriorly extending to, or almost to postpronotal lobe). Lateroterga with a single xanthine across both anatergite and katatergite. Thoracic setae. Anterior notopleural seta present; anterior supra-alar seta present; prescutellar acrostichal seta present; basal scutellar seta absent.

Wing. Basal cells bc and c without an almost complete covering of microtrichia; cell bm without microtrichia. Narrow subbasal raised section of cell br with extensive covering of microtrichia. Crossvein R-M beyond middle of cell dm. Costal band complete; shallow, not or only slightly extending below vein R<sub>2+3</sub> before wing apex; expanded into a small apical spot. Anal streak present (colour extending beyond cell bcu). Cells bc and c hyaline. Without any crossbanding.

Legs. Femora pale, sometimes with a dark preapical marking, or bicoloured (pale basally, red-brown to fuscous apically). Abdomen. Red-brown, patterned black.

Tergites II-V separate. Male. Tergite III with pecten, dense microtrichia adjacent end A<sub>1</sub>+Cu<sub>2</sub>, and hindtibia preapical "pad". Basal costal sections without specialised setae.

Female. Aculeus pointed and with preapical "shoulder"; no torsion; length, 1.4-1.7mm.

Encyclopedia of Life link: <http://eol.org/pages/726161/overview>

## DNA barcoding

Multiple reference DNA barcodes from the species distribution are available on the Barcode of Life Data Systems (BOLD) at :

[http://www.boldsystems.org/index.php/TaxBrowser\\_Taxonpage?taxon=Bactrocera+latifrons&searchTaxa=](http://www.boldsystems.org/index.php/TaxBrowser_Taxonpage?taxon=Bactrocera+latifrons&searchTaxa=)

In BOLD (March 2017), *B. latifrons* only forms monospecific BINs. For this reason, DNA barcoding might be considered as a suitable tool for the molecular identification of this species.

## Biology

*Bactrocera latifrons* can complete its life cycle in about 21 days (Vargas and Nishida, 1985). Egg incubation takes about 2 days, while larval stage lasts about 8-9 days. Duration of pupa stage is about 10 days and adult female can live for about 64 days (Vargas and Nishida, 1985).

## Host plant list

*Bactrocera latifrons* mainly attacks Solanaceae and is a major pest of *Capsicum* and *Solanum* species (Drew & Romig, 2013). Detailed studies on host range can be found for Tanzania (Mziray et al., 2009). Throughout its range in Africa it is recorded from the hosts listed in the table below.

PlantFamily	PlantLatinName	PlantCommonNameEnglish
Cucurbitaceae	<i>Citrullus lanatus</i>	watermelon
Cucurbitaceae	<i>Cucumis dipsaceus</i>	teasel gourd
Cucurbitaceae	<i>Momordica trifoliolata</i>	
Solanaceae	<i>Capsicum annuum</i>	bell pepper, capsicum
Solanaceae	<i>Capsicum chinense</i>	Habanero pepper
Solanaceae	<i>Lycopersicon pimpinellifolium</i>	Cherry tomato
Solanaceae	<i>Solanum aethiopicum</i>	
Solanaceae	<i>Solanum anguivi</i>	
Solanaceae	<i>Solanum incanum</i>	
Solanaceae	<i>Solanum lycopersicum</i>	tomato
Solanaceae	<i>Solanum macrocarpon</i>	
Solanaceae	<i>Solanum melongena</i>	aubergine
Solanaceae	<i>Solanum nigrum</i>	black nightshade
Solanaceae	<i>Solanum scabrum</i>	
Solanaceae	<i>Solanum sodomaeum</i>	Sodom apple

Additional information on African host records and associated specimens can be found on :  
<http://projects.bebif.be/fruitfly/taxoninfo.html?id=371>

Host records from his native range in Asia can be found in Allwood et al. (1999)

Information on host range worldwide can be found on the USDA Compendium of Fruit Fly Host Information (see Liquido et al., 2016).

## Impact & management

*Bactrocera latifrons* is one of the few species in Africa infesting cultivated Solanaceae.

Management for this species is, as for most fruit fly pests, most efficient using an IPM (Integrated Pest Management) program, including aspects such as orchard sanitation, bait sprays, mass trapping among others. General reviews on the current IPM components applied in Africa can be found in chapters 13 to 20 of Ekesi et al. (2016).

No SIT (Sterile Insect Technique) application specifically for this species has been developed in Africa.

## Attractants & trapping

Both sexes can be attracted by protein bait products such as liquid protein baits and three component Biolure.

Male specimens can be attracted by latilure enhanced with cade oil (McQuate et al., 2004). However, experiments in Tanzania did not yield substantial trappings using this lure (Mziray et al., 2010).

General information on trapping, types of traps, lures and required density of trapping stations can be found in IAEA (2013), Shelly et al. (2014), and Manrakhan (2016).

## Distribution

*Bactrocera latifrons* is an Asian species introduced into Africa. First findings were in Tanzania in 2006. Records so far show only limited dispersal with records from Kenya and Tanzania. Not found on islands of the western Indian Ocean.

Distribution map for Africa, based upon specimen records with georeferences, is available at:

<http://projects.bebif.be/fruitfly/taxoninfo.html?id=371>

For worldwide distribution, see GBIF: <http://www.gbif.org/species/7775152>

## Others

CABI Plantwise factsheet on *B. latifrons* can be found at:

<http://www.plantwise.org/knowledgebank/datasheet.aspx?dsid=8719>

CABI invasive species compendium on *B. latifrons* can be found at:

<http://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/8719>

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