

New records of host plants for the longicorn beetle, *Analeptes trifasciata* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) in Nigeria.

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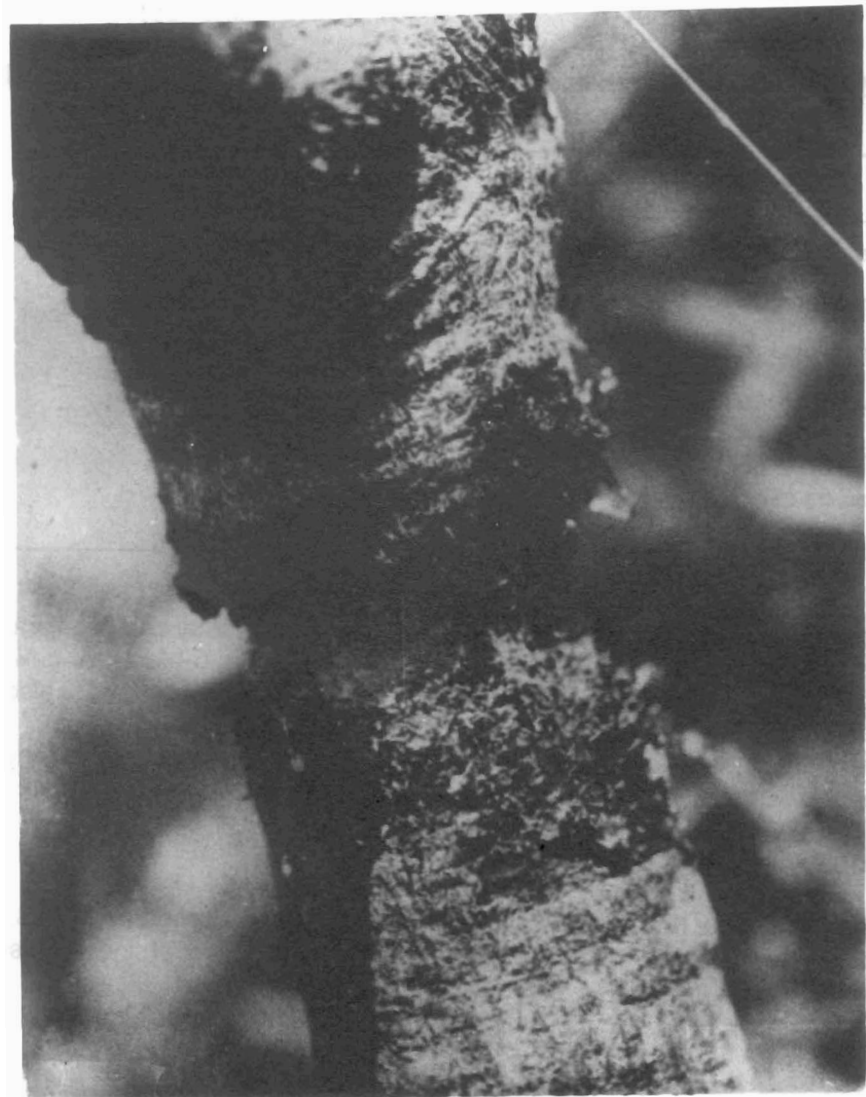
The longicorn beetle, *Analeptes trifasciata* (Fabricius) was reported to attack cashew; *Anacardium occidentale* (Linn.) in Nigeria (Tutley and Iwenjora, 1963; Eguagie, 1972) and *Lannea humilis* (Oliv.) in the Sudan and Uganda (Duffy, 1957).

The beetle attacks cashew plants between October and January and the incidence could be quite high, especially in large plantations. The adult girdles the stem, causing the attacked trees to fall over eventually.



(Plate 1)

In young plants, the main trunk is the major site of attack, but in older trees, the hardened and bigger lateral branches are also attacked. Point of attack is identified by the presence of a deep circular groove cut by the feeding adult beetle. This only leaves sufficient woody tissues at the centre which temporarily supports the weight of the trees or the branches.



(Plate 2)

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Many lateral shoots usually grow below the feeding sites.

It has been observed that after January, the beetles usually disappeared from cashew plantations. Therefore, a search for the alternate hosts of the beetle was conducted in 1977 and 1978 at Ibadan, Iwo and Ilesa areas from January to October. Results are presented in Table 1.

Table 1: Host plants of *Analeptes trifasciata* in Nigeria

Host-plant	Family
<i>Lannea humilis</i> (Oliv.)	Anacardiaceae
<i>Anacardium occidentale</i> (Linn.)	Anacardiaceae
<i>Theobroma cacao</i> (Linn.)	Sterculiaceae
<i>Lannea welnitschii</i> (Heirn)	Anacardiaceae
<i>Spondias mombin</i> (Linn.)	Anacardiaceae
<i>Terminalia catappa</i> (Linn.)	Combretaceae

Besides *L. humilis* (Duffy, 1957) and *A. occidentale* (Tutley and Iwenjora, 1963; Eguagie, 1972), other host plant records given in Table 1 are new. Secondary attack by the shot-hole borer, *Xyleborus* spp. was also observed on trees already attacked or killed by the beetle.

This observation may help in future studies on the life-history and ecology of the beetle.

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References

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