Forest decline differentially affects trophic guilds of canopy-dwelling beetles

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Abstract

Key message

Decline can affect the structure, resources and microclimates of the forest canopy, and potentially have cascading effects on canopy-dwelling species. Our survey shows that an oak decline can promote saproxylic beetles, especially xylophagous ones, and generalist phyllophagous weevils. However, it negatively affects specialist phyllophagous species and has no effect on seminiphagous weevils.

Context

Decline in a context of climate change is expected to induce considerable changes in forest structure, potentially affecting habitat opportunities and trophic resources for numerous species. Nonetheless, the consequences of decline on forest biodiversity have rarely been studied.

Aim

We aimed to characterize the impact of oak decline on different guilds of canopy-dwelling beetles.

Methods

Beetles were sampled for three consecutive years in oak stands exhibiting different levels of decline. Several guilds were considered: (i) buprestids, (ii) other saproxylic beetles split into xylophagous and non-xylophagous species, (iii) seminiphagous weevils, and (iv) specialist and generalist phyllophagous weevils.

Results

Overall, decline had positive effects on the abundance and biomass of beetles, though contrasted variations were observed at the species or guild levels. Xylophagous species, especially the main oak-associated buprestids, and other saproxylic species benefitted from decline conditions. However, at odds with the insect performance hypothesis, decline had a positive effect on generalist phyllophagous species, a negative effect on specialist phyllophagous species, and a null effect on seminiphagous species.

Conclusion

The increase in species richness for saproxylic and phyllophagous beetle communities suggests that decline might promote forest biodiversity. Our results call for further studies to thoroughly assess the functional outcomes of forest decline, and to suggest management strategies for conservation biologists.

Keywords: *Agrilus, Quercus*, saproxylic beetles, phyllophagous beetles, seminiphagous beetles

Introduction

Global change can dramatically affect the organization and functioning of forest ecosystems by promoting the introduction and establishment of invasive species (Liebhold et al. 2017), by intensifying land-use at the landscape level (Seibold et al. 2019), and through the direct and indirect effects of climate change on forest health (Seidl et al. 2017). Climate change already challenges the ability of European forests to adapt (Allen et al. 2010; Carnicer et al. 2011), and unprecedented forest declines are expected in response to the predicted increase in frequency and severity of droughts and heat waves (Allen et al. 2010; IPCC 2013).

Forest decline generally consists in a progressive loss of vigor in the trees, over several years, in response to multiple, successive or concomitant driving factors (Manion 1981). These factors include i) predisposing factors such as site conditions that constantly affect the stands, ii) contributing factors such as defoliation or droughts that trigger declines, and inciting factors such as secondary pests and pathogens, which aggravate the deleterious effects of contributing factors, ultimately killing trees (Manion 1981; Thomas et al. 2002; Sallé et al. 2014). The gradual loss of tree vigor progressively affects all forest compartments but the canopy is certainly the first to exhibit conspicuous modifications as decline progresses. The crown of a declining tree is characterized by an accumulation of dead branches, cavities and opportunistic fungi, but also by reduced foliage density and decreased seed production (Houston 1981; Ishii et al. 2004). Therefore, forest decline tends to increase the structural complexity of the canopy at stand, tree and branch scales and considerably modifies the corresponding microclimates (Ishii et al. 2004). Such profound structural modifications affect habitat opportunities and trophic resources, with likely marked cascading effects on canopy-dwelling communities.

The tree canopy and the soil are the two key compartments supporting forest biodiversity and their contribution is tremendous (Stork and Grimbacher 2006). Compared to tropical forests, temperate forests have less vertical stratification and a more marked seasonality with leaf fall, so temperate forest canopies probably shelter a lower proportion of specific taxa (Ulyshen 2011). Canopy functional biodiversity in temperate forests has therefore received relatively little attention to date (Ulyshen 2011). However, the studies conducted in temperate forests (e.g. Bouget et al. 2011; Vodka and Cizek 2013; Plewa et al. 2017) have shown a clear vertical stratification of insect assemblages, just as in tropical forests, with 20 – 40% of all forest insect species strictly associated with canopies (Bouget et al. 2011). In addition to these specialist species, many Arthropods also rely on the canopy for a part of their life cycle, for maturation

feeding and mating on foliage, for instance (Ulyshen 2011; Sallé et al. 2014). However, canopies
are still relatively unknown biotic frontiers. These crown ecosystems harbor poorly understood,
rarely described (both in terms of composition and abundance) insect communities (Bouget et al.
2011). They potentially shelter an underestimated pool of rare or patrimonial species (Plewa et
al. 2017), but also native and invasive pests.

Canopy modifications in response to decline may change resource availability and microclimates
and may create novel colonization opportunities, thus modulating in different ways the
community dynamics of canopy-dwelling insects, depending on their functional guilds. Changes
in foliage quality during plant stress may influence the performance of leaf feeders, but the
magnitude and orientation of the herbivore response likely depends on both stress intensity and
the feeding strategy of the herbivore (Larsson 1989; Herms and Mattson 1992). In addition, the
decrease in the number of living branches in the canopy of declining trees may also negatively
affect leaf-, seed-, and flower-feeding species (Martel and Mauffette 1997). A survey of
Lepidopteran communities in declining maple stands indicated that exposed caterpillars became
more abundant while the density of semi-concealed or endophagous species decreased (Martel
and Mauffette 1997). This suggests that phyllophagous or seminiphagous insects with an
intimate relationship with their host-tree, like specialist species with an endophytic larval
development, may be negatively affected by the decrease in foliage quantity or quality and/or the
change in microclimate, while these modifications might promote generalist species (Martel and
Mauffette, 1997). Conversely, saproxylic beetles are likely to show a marked positive response
to forest decline, both in terms of abundance and species richness. Saproxylic beetles form a
functional guild associated with dead and decaying wood, related microhabitats, and other
saproxylic taxa (Stokland et al. 2012). This guild also includes xylophagous species developing
on weakened trees and acting as secondary pests, like the buprestids (Coleoptera:
Buprestidae), which are aggravating agents during declines (Sallé et al., 2014; Tiberi et al.
2016). The weakened trees and the accumulation of dead wood and related microhabitats
typically of declining stands should promote the abundance and diversity of this functional guild.

Our investigation focused on oak forests, which have at least two relevant characteristics for our
study purpose. First, oak forests have regularly undergone periods of decline and diebacks
throughout Europe during the last centuries (e.g. Delatour, 1983; Oszako, 2000; Thomas et al.,
2002; Sonesson and Drobyshev, 2010; Denman et al., 2014). Moreover, the frequency and
intensity of declines have recently increased, and extended canopy modifications have already

been documented in Mediterranean oak forests (Allen et al. 2010; Carnicer et al. 2011; Millar and Stephenson 2015). Second, oak forests host a species-rich insect fauna (Southwood 1961). We sampled the communities of leaf-dwelling weevils (Coleoptera: Curculionidae) and saproxylic beetles for three consecutive years in oak stands exhibiting different levels of decline. Firstly, we hypothesized that saproxylic beetles, especially xylophagous species, would be favored by stand decline. Secondly, we expected to find contrasted responses for leaf-feeding weevils, dependent on their relationship with the host plant. More specifically, we hypothesized that weevils with endophytic larvae would be negatively affected by decline while species feeding on foliage only during the adult stage would be favored. Finally, we hypothesized that seminiphagous weevils would be negatively affected by the reduced amount of acorns in declining stands. Consequently, our objectives were (i) to describe the canopy-dwelling communities of buprestid beetles, other saproxylic species and weevils, and (ii) to evaluate how the local intensity of forest decline was modifying the diversity of these communities.

Material and methods

Study area

The study was conducted in the two adjacent state forests of Vierzon and Vouzeron, with a surface area of 5,300 ha and 2,200 ha respectively, located in the center of France 200 km south of Paris (47° 26' 89'' N, 02° 10' 74'' E). The Vierzon forest is dominated by oaks (mostly *Quercus petraea* and *Quercus robur*), at 70%, and conifers (mostly *Pinus sylvestris* and *Pinus nigra*), at 30%, in both pure and mixed stands. The Vouzeron forest is dominated by conifers (mostly *Pinus sylvestris* and *Pinus nigra*), at 65%, in pure stands or mixed with *Q. robur* and *Q. petraea*. The oaks, especially *Q. robur*, in the Vierzon forest have suffered from regular declines (documented in 1920, 1940 and 1982 (Douzon 2006)). The last severe phytosanitary crisis occurred between 2000 and 2010, which was followed by a sanitation cutting of 100,000 m^3 of oak over 1000 ha (Douzon, 2006). Several factors were implicated in these successive periods of decline. The prominent predisposing factor was the extensive plantation of *Q. robur*, especially individuals with delayed budburst, on inadequate forest sites with a shallow variable water table (Douzon 2006; Marçais and Desprez-Loustau 2014). The prominent contributing factors were severe droughts and defoliation caused by powdery mildew (Douzon, 2006; Marçais and Desprez-Loustau 2014). Finally, the most frequently observed aggravating biotic agents were *Agrilus biguttatus* Fabricius and *Armillaria mellea* (Vahl ex Fr.) P. Kumm. (Douzon 2006).

Site selection and characterization

In 2016, experts from the French Forest Health Service (Département de la Santé des Forêts (DSF)) evaluated the initial state of decline in 11 mature oak-dominated stands in the two forests (table 1). In the same year, 13 plots were set up: four healthy plots, five plots in a medium state of decline and four plots in a severe state of decline. In 2017 and 2018, 12 plots located in 11 stands were selected in the two forests (table 1). Some of the original plots were changed in 2018 because the stands had been either cleared or harvested selectively (table 1).

The level of decline was then evaluated yearly at two embedded spatial scales: (i) the individual tree bearing the sampling traps, hereafter referred as the tree scale, and (ii) the five closest oaks (in 2016 and 2017), or all the oaks located within a radius of 50 m around the trap trees (in 2018), hereafter referred as the tree-group scale. In the winter of each year, the degree of decline of the trap tree and of the five closest oaks was evaluated in each plot following the protocol developed by the DSF (Nageleisen 2005). In brief, crown transparency, the proportion of branches without leaves, the proportion of dead branches and leaf distribution in the canopy were evaluated. Based on these criteria, each tree was given a decline index ranging from 0 (no decline) to 5 (dead tree). Trees with an index value equal to or below two were considered healthy. Trees with an index value equal to or above three were considered in decline. For the tree-group scale, the proportion of declining trees (with a decline index equal to or above three) was calculated, following a routine DSF procedure.

Beetle sampling

Insects were collected for all three years (2016, 2017 and 2018) in green multi-funnel traps (Chemtica Internacional, San Jose, Costa Rica), each with 12 fluon-coated funnels. The collectors were filled with a 50% (v/v) monopropylene glycol solution diluted in water, and a drop of detergent. Green multi-funnel traps have successfully captured a wide array of buprestid species in North America and Europe (Petrice and Haack 2015; Rassati et al. 2019). The traps were emptied every month and the captured species were recorded. In 2016, the traps were installed in June and collection continued until September. In 2017, the traps were installed in April and collection continued until October. In 2018, the traps were installed in April and collection continued until September.

In 2016, we assessed whether trap height significantly affected the composition or relative abundance of the captured species. To do so, we suspended two green traps at different heights in the same tree, one approximately 15 m from the ground (i.e. among the lower branches of the

canopy) and the other 10 m above the ground (i.e. below the canopy). Thirteen pairs of traps were considered. Since for all guilds the number of individuals was higher in the upper traps (Fig. S1), the following years we only placed traps 15 m above the ground and, for the sake of consistency, only the upper traps were considered in the analyses for 2016.

In 2017 and 2018, we compared the trapping efficiency of green and purple multi-funnel traps (Chemtica Internacional, San Jose, Costa Rica), since Brown et al. (2017) showed that some European *Agrilus* species might be more attracted to purple than to green. For ten trees, one green and one purple trap were both suspended roughly 15 m above the ground, either in the same tree or, if necessary, in adjacent trees. For the two guilds of leaf-dwelling species (i.e. Agrilinae which perform maturation feeding and copulate on foliage and phytophagous weevils whose larvae and/or adults feed on foliage, flowers or acorns), green traps were markedly more attractive than purple ones, while no difference between traps was detected for the other saproxylic species (Fig. S2). Therefore, for the sake of consistency, only green traps were considered in the analyses.

Beetle identification and ecological trait assignment

Three beetle groups were considered for analysis: (i) oak-associated buprestid beetles, i.e. xylophagous species specifically attracted by green Lindgren traps; (ii) other saproxylic beetles, excluding "tourist" species associated to conifer tree species, split into two feeding guilds, i.e. the xylophagous species guild (incl. xylophagous *sensu stricto* and saproxylophagous species) and the non-xylophagous species guild (incl. saprophagous, zoophagous, mycetophagous species); and (iii) oak-associated phytophagous weevils, which were split into two feeding guilds, i.e. the leaf-eating (phyllophagous, i.e. folivore) species guild and the seed- and fruit-eating (seminiphagous, i.e. acorn borers) species guild. In the phyllophagous guild, we considered species whose adults feed on oak leaves (mainly leaf chewers) as generalist species, and species whose both larvae and adults feed on oak leaves (larvae dwelling in foliar tissues) as specialist species.

Certain saproxylic families were removed from the data set (Latridiidae, Leiodidae, Malachiidae, Cantharidae, Corylophidae, Cryptophagidae, Ptiliidae, Staphylinidae), because they are often difficult to identify at the species level and due to the lack of specialists able to check species identifications. The French Frisbee database was used as the reference list of feeding guilds for saproxylic beetle species from the 39 recorded beetle families (Bouget et al. 2019). Most of the beetle specimens were identified by several of the authors (GP, BN, XP, RB, TFG and RL). The remaining families were identified by specialists, as mentioned in the Acknowledgements. For

each guild, we computed number of species (richness), number of individuals (abundance) and

beetle biomass caught at the trap level and cumulated over all the sampling season per year.

Biomass, actually dry weight (in mg), was assessed through the following formula: Biomass =

$3.269+L^{2.463}$, where "L" is the body length in millimeters (Ganihar 1997 in Seibold et al. 2019).

The abundance of several dominant species of oak-associated buprestids and phytophagous

weevils was also analyzed.

Data analysis

All analyses were performed in R, version 3.5.1 (R Core Team 2018). To analyze the effect of

the decline level at tree scale on cumulative number of detected species, we rarefied species

richness to the same sample size (interpolated rarefaction sampling without replacement;

specaccum function, vegan R-package). To rank the effect of decline level at tree or tree-group

scale on variations in average univariate metrics (mean values per trap of guild richness,

species abundance, guild abundance, guild biomass), we used the differences in the Akaike

information criterion (AICc) scores to compare the fit between the generalized linear mixed

models including separately each of the two explanatory variables and their fit with the null

model. To assess the significance of the estimates of the best decline features for each

response variable, the error structure of the generalized linear mixed-effects models was

adjusted to better fit the data. To do so, glmm were fitted for the negative binomial family, the

Gaussian family, the log-normal family (i.e. log-transformed response), and the Poisson family

(functions glmer.nb, glmer, lmer, lme4 R-package). To account for repeated measurements,

year was added as a random effect on the intercept in mixed models.

To rank the effect of decline level at tree or tree-group scale on variations in species composition

(including singletons), we performed a Canonical Analysis of Principal coordinates (function

capscale, vegan R-package, CAP, Anderson and Willis 2003). Based on Bray-Curtis distance

matrices, we carried out inertia partitioning on all the explanatory environmental variables, as

colinearity among predictor variables is not a problem in CAP. We calculated total constrained

inertia, the total inertia explained by each variable, the latter's statistical significance

(permutation tests – 100 runs) and the relative individual contribution of each variable to

constrained inertia.

We used the IndVal method to identify beetle species indicating tree decline level (healthy *vs.*

declining) (Dufrêne and Legendre 1997, indicspecies R-package). This method calculates the

association value (IndVal index) between the species and a group of sites, based on between-

group variations in occurrence (fidelity) and abundance (specificity), and then tests the statistical

significance of this relationship with a permutation test. P-values were corrected for multiple
testing. Only species shown to be significant in the permutation test with an indicator value
above 25%, occurring in more than 10% of the samples and with more than 10 individuals
sampled were considered here.

Results

Overall, the compiled data set of 27,627 individual specimens included 266 beetle species:
10,440 individuals and ten species of oak-associated buprestid beetles; 8,280 individuals and 21
species of oak-associated phytophagous weevils (4 seminiphagous, 10 specialist
phyllophagous, 5 generalist phyllophagous and 2 flower-eating (anthophagous) species); 3,008
individuals and 102 species of non-xylophagous saproxylic beetles; and 5,899 individuals and
133 species of xylophagous saproxylic beetles (table S1). This corresponds to 14,490
individuals and 223 beetle species found in the 23 traps hanging from non- or slightly-declining
trees, and 13,137 individuals and 194 species found in the 14 traps hanging from declining
trees. On the whole, cumulative species-richness estimates at a standardized sample size did
not display any significant contrast between decline levels at the tree scale, either for the whole
beetle community, or for individual guilds (Fig. S3).

We detected many significant effects of decline level on guild metrics (mean abundance,
biomass and richness per trap) and on species mean abundances (table 3). Most of these
effects were positive, except, at the tree-group scale, for (i) a negative effect of decline level on
the mean abundance of xylophagous beetles (table 1 and Fig. 2), and (ii) a negative effect of
decline level on the mean abundance of two specialist phyllophagous species, i.e. *Archarius*
pyrrhoceras Marsham and *Orchestes quercus* L. (table 3). We measured significant positive
effects of decline level at the tree scale on the biomass and abundance of buprestids (Fig. 1)
and on the species richness of xylophagous beetles (Fig. 2); and at tree-group scale, on species
richness of buprestids (Fig. 1) and phyllophagous weevils (Fig. 3), on the abundance of
generalist phyllophagous weevils (Fig. 3) and on the biomass of non-xylophagous saproxylic
beetles (Fig. 3). Five of the six buprestid species tested responded positively in abundance to
decline intensity (at tree scale: *Agrilus angustulus* Illiger, *A. biguttatus*, *Agrilus laticornis* Illiger,
Agrilus obscuricollis Kiesenwetter, *Agrilus sulcicollis* Lacordaire; and at the tree-group scale:
Coraebus undatus Fabricius), as well as one of the two tested generalist phyllophagous weevil
(*Phyllobius pyri* L.) (table 3). Seminiphagous species were not significantly affected by decline

level at any scale, either at species or guild level (table 3, Fig. 3). Specialist phyllophagous weevils responded to decline intensity at the species level but not at the guild level (table 3, Fig. 3). When all the sampled species were pooled, we also observed significant positive effects of decline at the tree scale on the biomass and abundance of all beetles (table 3, Fig. 4).

From CAP analyses, we estimated low but significant contributions of decline level to variations in the community composition of most of the beetle groups, i.e. phytophagous weevils, buprestids and xylophagous saproxylic, though not for the non-xylophagous saproxylic guild (table 4). Significant effects on community composition were mainly related to decline level at the tree-group scale, except for xylophagous saproxylic beetles, which were affected at the tree scale.

The IndVal analysis detected 15 characteristic species in declining trees, and only one in healthy trees (table 5). The group of species indicating declining trees consisted primarily of xylophagous species, including four species of *Agrilus*, five other xylophagous beetle species, and two saproxylophagous species.

Discussion

Oak decline affected the communities of the canopy-dwelling beetles considered in our study differently depending on their feeding guild and/or host specialization. As predicted, the abundance, biomass, and species richness of oak-associated buprestids increased with the decline severity. The abundance of most major Agrilinae species followed a similar pattern. Consequently, most species contributed to this overall increase. Agrilinae preferentially colonize weakened hosts (e.g. Moraal and Hilszczanski 2000; Jennings et al. 2014; Petrice and Haack 2014; Poole et al. 2019), and their abundance is positively influenced by the availability of fresh snags and coarse woody debris in the environment (Redilla and McCullough 2017); these features typically occur in declining stands. Several of the species collected, namely *A. biguttatus*, *A. sulcicollis*, *A. angustulus*, and *C. undatus*, can act as major aggravating agents during oak declines (Sallé et al. 2014). Consequently, they may also have exerted a positive feedback by further weakening their host trees, thus contributing to the accumulation of favorable breeding material. Interestingly, three of the four, *A. biguttatus*, *A. sulcicollis* and *A. angustulus*, were also good indicators of declining trees, together with *Scolytus intricatus* Ratzeburg and *Gasterocercus depressirostris* Fabricius, other aggravating agents of oak decline (Saintonge and Nageleisen 2001; Sallé et al. 2014). However, while the species richness of other xylophagous species also increased in declining stands, their abundance slightly

decreased. This might reflect increased competition among xylophagous species in declining
stands. However, the variation in abundance of these other xylophagous beetles should be
considered with caution since it was mostly driven by variations in the abundance of *Anisandrus*
dispar Fabricius. The abundance of this generalist ambrosia beetle might have been loosely
connected to oak decline level. The increased availability of resources and habitats in declining
stands, especially large woody debris, probably also participated in the observed increase in the
biomass of non-xylophagous saproxylic beetles, since the size of saproxylic species tends to
increase with the diameter of the available deadwood resources (Brin et al. 2011).
Feeding guilds of phytophagous weevils responded differently to decline severity. The
abundance of generalist phyllophagous species, especially *P. pyri*, increased with decline
intensity, while the abundance of the two main specialist phyllophagous species, i.e. *O. quercus*
and *A. pyrrhoceras*, decreased. These variations support our hypotheses and are congruent with
previous observations by Martel and Mauffette (1997) for Lepidopteran communities colonizing
maple foliage. They are nonetheless inconsistent with predictions from the insect performance
hypothesis by Larsson (1989) concerning the response of folivores with various feeding habits to
tree stress. Several factors may have affected the abundance of phyllophagous weevils
differently. Environmental constraints can have contrasted effects on both biochemical and
morphological leaf traits (Günthardt-Goerg et al. 2013; Hu et al. 2013). Likewise, the greater
exposure of leaves in the opened canopies of declining oaks can alter their phytochemical
profile, and may have increased their content in phenolic compounds (Yamasaki and Kikuzawa
2003; Lämke and Unsicker 2018). Such modifications may in turn have different impacts on
phytophagous insects depending on their feeding guild and specialization (e.g. Gutbrodt et al.
2011; Forkner et al. 2014). In addition to modifying trophic resources or habitats, crown thinning
during a decline can also directly impact larval development by altering the thermal buffering
provided by the canopy (Martel and Mauffette 1997; Hardwick et al. 2015; De Frenne et al.
2019). Greater leaf exposure will affect leaf microclimate and may have detrimental effects on
endophytic larvae (e.g. Pincebourde et al. 2007), like those of *O. quercus* or *A. pyrrhoceras*.
Canopy thinning can also affect forest soil microclimates (De Frenne et al. 2013), allowing free-
living larvae like those of *P. pyri* to find optimal microclimatic conditions more easily. Finally,
greater leaf exposure may also lead to greater predation pressure on leaf-dwelling endophytic
larvae (e.g. Tschanz et al. 2005), which would further explain why specialist phyllophagous
weevils with endophytic larvae were negatively affected by oak decline. Overall, the negative
response of specialist phyllophagous species to decline may relate to a decrease in leaf
suitability (phytochemical profile and microclimatic conditions), an increase in predation pressure

or reduced food availability (fewer leaves) (Gely et al. 2019). Conversely, the positive response
of generalist phyllophagous species to decline severity could stem from a decrease in
interspecific competition with decreasing populations of specialist species (Kaplan and Denno
2007), and from improved conditions for larval development. For seminiphagous weevils, no
effect of decline was detected, suggesting either that acorn quantity or quality was not markedly
affected by oak decline or that the modifications were not significant enough to impact the
species considered.
We considered decline level at two spatial scales: the tree and the tree-group. Overall, we
observed significant responses mainly at the tree scale for xylophagous beetles, including oak-
associated buprestids, and mainly at the tree-group scale for phytophagous and non-
xylophagous saproxylic beetles. This might reflect differences among guilds in their dispersal
capacity and host-selection behavior. For instance, some xylophagous species might have
emerged from the declining trap trees or might have been visually and/or chemically attracted by
these declining trees, since weakened hosts often attract secondary pests (e.g. Haack and
Benjamin 1982).
For all the communities we monitored, further experiments would be necessary to identify the
main drivers of the variations observed. More specifically, the effect of decline on the abundance
of microhabitats and resources such as dead wood, cavities, opportunistic fungi, and acorns
should be quantified (Heitzman et al. 2007; Spetich 2007). Likewise, changes in microclimates
and predation pressure at the canopy and soil levels during a decline should be characterized.
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Changes in species richness and abundance led to significant community modifications for both
xylophagous beetles and phytophagous weevils, which in turn contributed to a significant
modification of the overall beetle community. From a functional standpoint, this type of
modification may modulate important processes in forest ecosystems, since saproxylic insects
play a significant role in wood decomposition and the nitrogen cycle (Ulyshen 2015). In addition,
saproxylic and leaf-dwelling beetles can be important prey for insectivorous vertebrates (e.g.
Tillon et al. 2016; Koenig and Liebhold 2017), and changes in beetle community composition
may therefore have cascading effects on the food web (e.g. Koenig and Liebhold 2017). From a
conservation standpoint, the increase in species richness for the xylophagous and
phyllophagous beetle communities suggests that declining stands might enhance forest
biodiversity. Decline especially promoted saproxylic species. This community is particularly
sensitive to the intensification of management practices involving the extraction of weakened or
decaying wood material, and consequently includes several rare and protected species (Grove

2002; Seibold et al. 2015). The accumulation of suitable habitats and resources for this community in declining stands may then counterbalance the adverse effects of intensive management. The increase in abundance and/or biomass of xylophagous and phyllophagous beetles also resulted in an overall increase in beetle abundance and biomass in the declining stands. This also suggests that forest decline may mitigate the reduction in insect biomass recently reported in European forests, in intensively managed landscapes (Seibold et al. 2019), at least if the increase in resources and structural complexity persists over time (Winter et al. 2015). In this regard, increases in species richness, abundance and biomass of xylophagous species at the stand scale, as in our study, might prove to be ephemeral (Winter et al. 2015).

In our forests, in the CAP sampling year explained a greater percentage of inertia than did decline level for all guilds considered. Though slight variations in sampling periods among years may have contributed to this year effect, marked variations in beetle abundance and biomass also occurred on plots and at periods that were monitored throughout the three years of survey (data not shown). Such marked fluctuations in population and community abundances are commonly observed in temperate forests (e.g. Stange et al. 2011), so a longer monitoring period would be necessary to identify the factors contributing to the between-year variations we observed.

Green Lindgren traps, placed at the canopy level, have proven to be effective in collecting leaf-dwelling beetles. These traps were specifically designed to collect *Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire (Francese et al. 2011), but have also allowed researchers to collect North American and European Agrilinae species (Petrice and Haack 2015; Rassati et al. 2019). During our survey, all the Agrilinae species associated with oaks in France (i.e. *Agrilus* sp., *Coraebus* sp. and *Meliboeus* sp.) were captured, except for *Agrilus grandiceps hemiphanes* Marseul, a rare Mediterranean species, and *Coraebus florentinus* Herbst. The latter species had previously been collected in the Vierzon forest, and typical shoot browning resulting from its larval activity has already been reported there. The species might have been present but at too low population density for detection, or it might not have been attracted by our traps. We also collected quite diverse communities of phyllophagous and seminiphagous weevil species in our green Lindgren traps, in large amounts for some species. These species were significantly more attracted to green traps than to purple ones, which is congruent with the attraction to green substrates reported for other phytophagous weevils (e.g. Cross et al. 1976; Gadi and Reddy 2014). Overall, this suggests that green Lindgren traps are attractive to phyllobiont species in general, and confirms the tool's utility when investigating canopy-dwelling beetles associated with foliage.

Conclusion

Our three-year survey in a declining forest allowed us to detect significant effects of decline on
different canopy-dwelling species and guilds, in spite of strong inter-annual variations and a
limited spatial extent, the survey being performed in two adjacent forests. Overall, decline had a
positive effect on the abundance and biomass of beetles, but contrasted variations were
observed at the species or guild levels, with positive effects for saproxylic and generalist
phyllophagous species, null effects for seminiphagous species and negative effects for specialist
phyllophagous species. These results call for studies conducted at larger spatial and temporal
scales to assess the functional outcomes of the unprecedented level of forest decline expected
to affect Europe, and to propose management strategies for conservation biologists.

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Table 1: characteristics of the monitored oak stands

Stand	Stand height (m)	Monitoring year	Composition	Mean ± SE oak DBH (cm)	Oak density (n / ha)	Tree density (n / ha)	Total basal area (m² / ha)
19	15	2018	Oak with a beech understorey	51.8 ± 2.4	151	151	33
24	20	2016-2017	Pure oak	65.0 ± 3.5	88	88	30
35-1	17	2016-2017-2018	Oak with scattered beech and Scots pine	54.2 ± 3.4	111	207	47
35-2	17	2016-2017-2018	Oak with scattered beech and Scots pine	51.7 ± 3.5	119	167	30
55	21	2016-2017-2018	Mixed stand of oak and beech	69.0 ± 8.3	16	111	33
70	17	2016-2017-2018	Oak with scattered beech and Scots pine	47.1 ± 5.0	64	119	21
71	15	2018	Oaks with scattered beech and Scots pine	39.7 ± 3.7	119	223	26
81-1	23	2016	Oak with a hornbeam understorey	37.4 ± 1.3	175	175	20
81-2	23	2016-2017-2018	Oak with a hornbeam understorey	37.4 ± 1.3	175	175	20
133	18	2016-2017	Oak with scattered beech and Scots pine	75.0 ± 2.6	56	80	28
161	22	2016-2017	Pure oak	64.6 ± 5.6	80	88	31
179	19	2016-2017-2018	Pure oak	59.3 ± 3.6	151	151	45
236	15	2016-2017-2018	Mixed stand of oak and beech	40.5 ± 4.8	167	422	51
249	16	2018	Oak with scattered beech	48.2 ± 1.3	199	223	38
290	16	2016-2017-2018	Oak with scattered wild service trees	38.6 ± 1.7	183	207	24
299	21	2016-2017-2018	Pure oak	47.8 ± 8.1	64	64	14

623 Table 2: decline index of trap trees and percentage of surrounding declining trees in the
624 monitored oak stands, for the three survey years

	Decline index of trap trees			Percentage of surrounding declining trees		
	2016	2017	2018	2016	2017	2018
19	NA	NA	3	NA	NA	89
24	4	3	NA	17	33	NA
35-1	2	1	1	17	0	19
35-2	0	1	1	17	33	14
55	3	3	3	83	67	100
70	3	3	3	83	71	100
71	NA	NA	3	NA	NA	87
81-1	1	1	1	17	17	14
81-2	2	NA	NA	0	NA	NA
133	3.5	2	NA	33	57	NA
161	2	2	NA	33	29	NA
179	2	4	2	17	57	61
236	3	3	3	33	33	45
249	NA	NA	3.5	NA	NA	60
290	2	2	2	33	14	43
299	3.5	2	2	50	57	50

628 Table 3: effect of decline on biomass, abundance and species richness for the different groups

629 and guilds of beetles, and on abundance for the main species collected in the canopy.

		Variable (mean value per trap)	Best ecological model	Delta[AICc]°	Effect of decline estimate	sd
Oak-associated buprestid beetles		biomass [3]	Tree	-6	**1.26 ****	0.44
		abundance [1]	Tree	-5	**1.38 ****	0.48
		species richness [4]	Tree-group	-2	**0.14 ***	0.06
		Agrilus angustulus [3]°°	Tree	-4	**1.49 ***	0.59
		Agrilus biguttatus [1]	Tree	-2	**2.03 ***	0.93
		Agrilus hastulifer [1]	Tree	0	1.84	1.05
		Agrilus laticornis [1]	Tree	-2	**0.98 ***	0.46
		Agrilus obscuricollis [1]	Tree	-2	**1.87 ***	0.93
		Agrilus sulcicollis [1]	Tree	-9	**1.88 *****	0.51
		Coraebus undatus [1]	Tree-group	-7	**0.94 *****	0.28
Saproxylic beetles (excl. buprestids)	Xylophagous	biomass [3]	Tree	0	0.71	0.46
		abundance [3]	Tree-group	-2	**-0.39 ***	0.16
		species richness [1]	Tree	-1	**0.29 ***	0.14
	Non-xylophagous	biomass [3]	Tree-group	-3	**0.31 ****	0.10
		abundance [1]	Tree-group	+1	0.12	0.10
		species richness [2]	Tree-group	0	3.41	1.84
Oak-associated weevils	All phytophagous	biomass [3]	Tree-group	0	0.19	0.12
		abundance [3]	Tree	+2	0.10	0.10
		species richness [2]	Tree-group	0	0.64	0.37
	All phyllophagous	biomass [3]	Tree	-1	0.23	0.13
		abundance [3]	Tree	+2	-0.10	0.26
		species richness [3]	Tree-group	-3	**0.10 ***	0.04
	Generalist phyllophagous	biomass [3]	Tree-group	-1	0.59	0.32
		abundance [3]	Tree-group	-5	**0.77 ****	0.23
		species richness [3]	Tree	+5	0.04	0.12
		Phyllobius pyri [1]	Tree-group	-6	**1.69 ****	0.56
		Polydrusus cervinus [1]	Tree-group	+2	0.27	0.28
	Specialist phyllophagous	biomass [3]	Tree	+2	-0.10	0.04
		abundance [3]	Tree	+1	-0.12	0.10
		species richness [4]	Tree-group	0	0.14	0.09
		Archarius pyrrhoceras [1]	Tree-group	-3	**-0.79 ***	0.37
		Orchestes quercus [1]	Tree-group	-1	**-0.27 ***	0.13
	Seminiphagous	biomass [3]	Tree	+1	-0.38 [ns]	0.57
		abundance [1]	Tree-group	+2	-0.14 [ns]	0.21
		species richness [4]	Tree-group	+2	0.06 [ns]	0.10
		Curculio glandium [1]	Tree-group	+2	-0.15 [ns]	0.22
All beetles		biomass [3]	Tree	-10	**0.80 *****	0.22
		abundance [2]	Tree	-3	**298.2 ***	121.10
		species richness [2]	Tree	+1	3.70	2.33

Generalized linear mixed-effects models fitted for the negative binomial family [1], the Gaussian family [2], the log-

normal family [3] (i.e. log-transformed response), the Poisson family [4] with year as a random effect ; biomass = dry

weight (in mg); ° ΔAICc = AICc (best ecological model) – AICc (null model); °° the variable considered for species is

abundance. $P<0.05$: *; $P<0.01$: **; $P<0.001$: ***.

Table 4: Canonical Analysis of Principal coordinates, based on Bray-Curtis distance matrices,

ranking the effect of the two spatial levels of decline (tree-group vs. tree) on variations in species

composition.

Group	Ecological variable with the best contribution to inertia	Inertia explained by the best ecological variable (and significance)	% inertia explained	Inertia explained by sampling year	% inertia explained by sampling year
Oak-associated buprestid beetles	Tree-group	**0.60** *	5.9	**2.19** ***	21.5
Xylophagous beetles (excl. buprestids)	Tree	**0.58** *	6.7	**4.70** ***	54.5
Non-xylophagous saproxylic beetles	Tree-group	0.13	1.3	**3.14** ***	30.4
Oak-associated weevils	Tree-group	**0.32** *	4.9	**1.75** ***	26.2
All beetles	Tree-group	**0.48** **	5.5	**2.63** ***	30.5

639   P<0.001:   ***.

640 Table 5: characteristic species for each tree-decline level, identified using the IndVal approach.

641 We retained only those species significant in the permutation test with an indicator value above

642 0.25, sampled in more than 10% of traps and with more than 10 individuals.

Group	Indicator species	Feeding guild	Indicator value	Frequency (%)
Declining trees	*Agrilus angustulus*	Xylophagous	0.891 *	86
	Agrilus sulcicollis	Xylophagous	0.889 **	81
	Agrilus hastulifer	Xylophagous	0.798 *	65
	Agrilus biguttatus	Xylophagous	0.794 **	51
	Trichoferus pallidus	Xylophagous	0.843 **	65
	Rhagium sycophanta	Xylophagous	0.573 *	16
	Xylotrechus antilope	Xylophagous	0.622 *	30
	Scolytus intricatus	Xylophagous	0.683 **	30
	Gasterocercus depressirostris	Xylophagous	0.517 *	14
	Mordella brachyura	Saproxylophagous	0.804 *	57
	Cetonia aurata	Saproxylophagous	0.699 **	35
	Opilo mollis	Zoophagous	0.787 *	62
	Stenagostus rhombeus	Zoophagous	0.733 *	59
	Lygistopterus sanguineus	Zoophagous	0.716 **	43
Healthy trees	*Calambus bipustulatus*	Zoophagous	0.693 **	35

644 P<0.05: *; P<0.01: **.

646 Figure 1: abundance, biomass and species richness of oak-associated buprestid beetles
647 depending on decline level at the tree scale (heatlhy vs. declining) or tree-group scale
648 (percentage of declining trees). See table 3 for statistical results; P<0.05: *; P<0.01: **.
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Figure 2: abundance of xylophagous and non-xylophagous saproxylic beetles, species richness of xylophagous beetles, and biomass of non-xylophagous saproxylic beetles depending on decline level at the tree scale (heatlhy vs. declining) or tree-group scale (percentage of declining trees). See table 3 for statistical results; P<0.05: *; P<0.01: **.

Figure 3: abundance of generalist phyllophagous, specialist phyllophagous and seminiphagous weevils, and species richness of all phyllophagous weevils, depending on decline level at the tree-group scale (percentage of declining trees). See table 3 for statistical results; P<0.05: *; P<0.01: **.

Figure 4: abundance and biomass of all the beetle species considered in the analyses,

depending on decline at the tree scale (heatlhy vs. declining). See table 3 for statistical results;

P<0.05: *; P<0.01: **.

Figure S1: effect of trap height (10 m *vs.* 15 m above the ground) on the number of oak-
associated Agrilinae (i.e. *Agrilus* sp., *Coraebus* sp. and *Meliboeus* sp.), other saproxylic beetles,
and phytophagous weevils (i.e. phyllophagous and seminiphagous species) captured per trap.
Statistical differences between traps were assessed with Wilcoxon signed-ranked tests, with
P<0.01 (**).
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Figure S2

Effect of trap color (green *vs.* purple) on the number of oak-associated Agrilinae (i.e. *Agrilus* sp.,

Coraebus sp. and *Meliboeus* sp.), other saproxylic beetles, and phytophagous weevils (i.e.

phyllophagous and seminiphagous species) captured per trap. Statistical differences between

traps were assessed with Wilcoxon signed-ranked tests, with P<0.01 (**), and P<0.001 (***).

Figure S3

Cumulative interpolated rarefaction of species richness with sample size (sampling without
replacement) by dieback level at tree scale. Vertical dashed line = standard interpolated sample
size, horizontal dashed line = species richness estimate at the standardized sample size, and
grey area = standard deviation of species richness estimate.

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694 Table S1: list of all the beetle species collected and used for the data analyses with their group,

695 their guild and their abundance

Group	Guild	Species	Family	Number of individuals
Oak-associated buprestid beetles (Agrilinae)	NA	*Agrilus angustulus*	BUPRESTIDAE	2089
	NA	*Agrilus biguttatus*	BUPRESTIDAE	282
	NA	*Agrilus curtulus*	BUPRESTIDAE	1
	NA	*Agrilus graminis*	BUPRESTIDAE	65
	NA	*Agrilus hastulifer*	BUPRESTIDAE	1603
	NA	*Agrilus laticornis*	BUPRESTIDAE	4029
	NA	*Agrilus obscuricollis*	BUPRESTIDAE	1433
	NA	*Agrilus sulcicollis*	BUPRESTIDAE	664
	NA	*Coraebus undatus*	BUPRESTIDAE	198
	NA	*Meliboeus fulgidicollis*	BUPRESTIDAE	76
Oak-associated phytophagous weevils	anthophagous	*Coeliodes ilicis*	CURCULIONIDAE	4
	anthophagous	*Coeliodes transversealbofasciatus*	CURCULIONIDAE	2
	seminiphagous	*Curculio elephas*	CURCULIONIDAE	67
	seminiphagous	*Curculio glandium*	CURCULIONIDAE	926
	seminiphagous	*Curculio pellitus*	CURCULIONIDAE	41
	seminiphagous	*Curculio venosus*	CURCULIONIDAE	111
	generalist phyllophagous	*Brachyderes incanus*	CURCULIONIDAE	74
	generalist phyllophagous	*Phyllobius pyri*	CURCULIONIDAE	1277
	generalist phyllophagous	*Polydrusus cervinus*	CURCULIONIDAE	260
	generalist phyllophagous	*Polydrusus marginatus*	CURCULIONIDAE	4
	generalist phyllophagous	*Strophosoma capitatum*	CURCULIONIDAE	15
	specialist phyllophagous	*Archarius pyrrhoceras*	CURCULIONIDAE	425
	specialist phyllophagous	*Attelabus nitens*	CURCULIONIDAE	7
	specialist phyllophagous	*Curculio villosus*	CURCULIONIDAE	6
	specialist phyllophagous	*Lasiorhynchites coeruleocephalus*	CURCULIONIDAE	29
	specialist phyllophagous	*Neocoenorhinidius interpunctatus*	CURCULIONIDAE	109
	specialist phyllophagous	*Neocoenorrhinus minutus*	CURCULIONIDAE	10
	specialist phyllophagous	*Orchestes avellanae*	CURCULIONIDAE	120
	specialist phyllophagous	*Orchestes irroratus*	CURCULIONIDAE	10
	specialist phyllophagous	*Orchestes pilosus*	CURCULIONIDAE	13
	specialist phyllophagous	*Orchestes quercus*	CURCULIONIDAE	4770
Saproxylic beetles associated with deciduous trees	non-xylophagous	*Anthribus nebulosus*	ANTHRIBIDAE	16
	non-xylophagous	*Teredus cylindricus*	BOTHRIDERIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Dromius agilis*	CARABIDAE	7
	non-xylophagous	*Dromius quadrimaculatus*	CARABIDAE	14
	non-xylophagous	*Cerylon ferrugineum*	CERYLONIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Cerylon histeroides*	CERYLONIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Cis pygmaeus*	CIIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Cis villosulus*	CIIDAE	2
	non-xylophagous	*Ennearthron cornutum*	CIIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Orthocis lucasi*	CIIDAE	2
	non-xylophagous	*Clambus armadillo*	CLAMBIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Clerus mutillarius*	CLERIDAE	9
	non-xylophagous	*Opilo mollis*	CLERIDAE	59
	non-xylophagous	*Tilloidea unifasciata*	CLERIDAE	8
	non-xylophagous	*Tillus elongatus*	CLERIDAE	3

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Group	Guild	Species	Family	Number of individuals
Saproxylic beetles (excl. Agrilinae) associated with deciduous trees	non-xylophagous	*Aplocnemus impressus*	DASYTIDAE	11
	non-xylophagous	*Aplocnemus nigricornis*	DASYTIDAE	4
	non-xylophagous	*Dasytes aeratus*	DASYTIDAE	159
	non-xylophagous	*Dasytes caeruleus*	DASYTIDAE	180
	non-xylophagous	*Dasytes niger*	DASYTIDAE	2
	non-xylophagous	*Dasytes nigrocyaneus*	DASYTIDAE	26
	non-xylophagous	*Dasytes pauperculus*	DASYTIDAE	116
	non-xylophagous	*Dasytes plumbeus*	DASYTIDAE	8
	non-xylophagous	*Dasytes subaeneus*	DASYTIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Dasytes virens*	DASYTIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Psilothrix viridicoerulea*	DASYTIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Trichoceble floralis*	DASYTIDAE	3
	non-xylophagous	*Attagenus brunneus*	DERMESTIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Attagenus pellio*	DERMESTIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Ctesias serra*	DERMESTIDAE	34
	non-xylophagous	*Dermestes lardarius*	DERMESTIDAE	4
	non-xylophagous	*Dermestes murinus*	DERMESTIDAE	8
	non-xylophagous	*Dermestes undulatus*	DERMESTIDAE	69
	non-xylophagous	*Globicornis fasciata*	DERMESTIDAE	8
	non-xylophagous	*Globicornis nigripes*	DERMESTIDAE	3
	non-xylophagous	*Megatoma undata*	DERMESTIDAE	11
	non-xylophagous	*Ampedus balteatus*	ELATERIDAE	4
	non-xylophagous	*Ampedus elongatulus*	ELATERIDAE	30
	non-xylophagous	*Ampedus nigerrimus*	ELATERIDAE	197
	non-xylophagous	*Ampedus pomorum*	ELATERIDAE	50
	non-xylophagous	*Ampedus quercicola*	ELATERIDAE	13
	non-xylophagous	*Ampedus rufipennis*	ELATERIDAE	8
	non-xylophagous	*Ampedus sanguinolentus*	ELATERIDAE	59
	non-xylophagous	*Brachygonus megerlei*	ELATERIDAE	26
	non-xylophagous	*Calambus bipustulatus*	ELATERIDAE	20
	non-xylophagous	*Cardiophorus ruficollis*	ELATERIDAE	2
	non-xylophagous	*Denticollis linearis*	ELATERIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Elater ferrugineus*	ELATERIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Hemicrepidius hirtus*	ELATERIDAE	17
	non-xylophagous	*Melanotus villosus*	ELATERIDAE	29
	non-xylophagous	*Podeonius acuticornis*	ELATERIDAE	2
	non-xylophagous	*Stenagostus rhombeus*	ELATERIDAE	37
	non-xylophagous	*Symbiotes gibberosus*	ENDOMYCHIDAE	2
	non-xylophagous	*Dacne bipustulata*	EROTYLIDAE	43
	non-xylophagous	*Triplax lepida*	EROTYLIDAE	65
	non-xylophagous	*Triplax russica*	EROTYLIDAE	14
	non-xylophagous	*Tritoma bipustulata*	EROTYLIDAE	2
	non-xylophagous	*Gnathoncus nidorum*	HISTERIDAE	2
	non-xylophagous	*Laemophloeus monilis*	LAEMOPHLOEIDAE	2
	non-xylophagous	*Placonotus testaceus*	LAEMOPHLOEIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Lygistopterus sanguineus*	LYCIDAE	28
	non-xylophagous	*Abdera biflexuosa*	MELANDRYIDAE	10
	non-xylophagous	*Monotoma picipes*	MONOTOMIDAE	1

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Table S1 cont.

Group	Guild	Species	Family	Number of individuals
Saproxylic beetles (excl. Agrilinae) associated with deciduous trees	non-xylophagous	*Rhizophagus bipustulatus*	MONOTOMIDAE	3
	non-xylophagous	*Rhizophagus dispar*	MONOTOMIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Rhizophagus ferrugineus*	MONOTOMIDAE	2
	non-xylophagous	*Berginus tamarisci*	MYCETOPHAGIDAE	100
	non-xylophagous	*Eulagius filicornis*	MYCETOPHAGIDAE	84
	non-xylophagous	*Litargus balteatus*	MYCETOPHAGIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Litargus connexus*	MYCETOPHAGIDAE	72
	non-xylophagous	*Mycetophagus piceus*	MYCETOPHAGIDAE	2
	non-xylophagous	*Mycetophagus populi*	MYCETOPHAGIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Cryptarcha strigata*	NITIDULIDAE	157
	non-xylophagous	*Cryptarcha undata*	NITIDULIDAE	149
	non-xylophagous	*Cychramus luteus*	NITIDULIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Epuraea sp*	NITIDULIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Soronia grisea*	NITIDULIDAE	295
	non-xylophagous	*Dorcatoma androgyna*	PTINIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Dorcatoma chrysomelina*	PTINIDAE	3
	non-xylophagous	*Dorcatoma flavicornis*	PTINIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Dorcatoma robusta*	PTINIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Dorcatoma substriata*	PTINIDAE	2
	non-xylophagous	*Pyrochroa coccinea*	PYROCHROIDAE	58
	non-xylophagous	*Salpingus planirostris*	SALPINGIDAE	4
	non-xylophagous	*Salpingus ruficollis*	SALPINGIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Uleiota planatus*	SILVANIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Nemozoma elongatum*	TROGOSSITIDAE	1
	non-xylophagous	*Tenebroides fuscus*	TROGOSSITIDAE	3
	non-xylophagous	*Colobicus hirtus*	ZOPHERIDAE	4
	non-xylophagous	*Colydium elongatum*	ZOPHERIDAE	2
	non-xylophagous	*Endophloeus markovichianus*	ZOPHERIDAE	3
	xylophagous	*Euglenes pygmaeus*	ADERIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Dissoleucas niveirostris*	ANTHRIBIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Phaeochrotes pudens*	ANTHRIBIDAE	3
	xylophagous	*Platystomos albinus*	ANTHRIBIDAE	38
	xylophagous	*Pseudeuparius sepicola*	ANTHRIBIDAE	6
	xylophagous	*Rhaphitropis oxyacanthae*	ANTHRIBIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Tropideres albirostris*	ANTHRIBIDAE	41
	xylophagous	*Lyctinae*	BOSTRICHIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Xylopertha retusa*	BOSTRICHIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Anthaxia salicis*	BUPRESTIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Chrysobothris affinis*	BUPRESTIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Alosterna tabacicolor*	CERAMBYCIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Anaesthetis testacea*	CERAMBYCIDAE	2
	xylophagous	*Anoplodera sexguttata*	CERAMBYCIDAE	6
	xylophagous	*Callimus angulatus*	CERAMBYCIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Cerambyx cerdo*	CERAMBYCIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Cerambyx scopolii*	CERAMBYCIDAE	8
	xylophagous	*Chlorophorus figuratus*	CERAMBYCIDAE	3
	xylophagous	*Clytus arietis*	CERAMBYCIDAE	9
	xylophagous	*Clytus tropicus*	CERAMBYCIDAE	4
	xylophagous	*Cortodera humeralis*	CERAMBYCIDAE	8
	xylophagous	*Dinoptera collaris*	CERAMBYCIDAE	1

Table S1 cont.

Group	Guild	Species	Family	Number of individuals
Saproxylic beetles (excl. Agrilinae) associated with deciduous trees	xylophagous	*Exocentrus adspersus*	CERAMBYCIDAE	3
	xylophagous	*Grammoptera abdominalis*	CERAMBYCIDAE	5
	xylophagous	*Grammoptera ruficornis*	CERAMBYCIDAE	9
	xylophagous	*Grammoptera ustulata*	CERAMBYCIDAE	7
	xylophagous	*Leiopus femoratus*	CERAMBYCIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Leiopus linnei*	CERAMBYCIDAE	5
	xylophagous	*Leiopus nebulosus*	CERAMBYCIDAE	6
	xylophagous	*Mesosa curculionoides*	CERAMBYCIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Mesosa nebulosa*	CERAMBYCIDAE	27
	xylophagous	*Pedostrangalia revestita*	CERAMBYCIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Phymatodes testaceus*	CERAMBYCIDAE	11
	xylophagous	*Plagionotus detritus*	CERAMBYCIDAE	8
	xylophagous	*Poecilium alni*	CERAMBYCIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Poecilium rufipes*	CERAMBYCIDAE	22
	xylophagous	*Pogonocherus ovatus*	CERAMBYCIDAE	2
	xylophagous	*Pseudosphegesthes cinerea*	CERAMBYCIDAE	4
	xylophagous	*Rhagium sycophanta*	CERAMBYCIDAE	16
	xylophagous	*Rutpela maculata*	CERAMBYCIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Tetrops praeustus*	CERAMBYCIDAE	2
	xylophagous	*Trichoferus pallidus*	CERAMBYCIDAE	95
	xylophagous	*Xylotrechus antilope*	CERAMBYCIDAE	66
	xylophagous	*Anisandrus dispar*	CURCULIONIDAE	1600
	xylophagous	*Cyclorhipidion bodoanum*	CURCULIONIDAE	24
	xylophagous	*Ernoporicus fagi*	CURCULIONIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Gasterocercus depressirostris*	CURCULIONIDAE	10
	xylophagous	*Hylastinus obscurus*	CURCULIONIDAE	6
	xylophagous	*Hylesinus varius*	CURCULIONIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Magdalis flavicornis*	CURCULIONIDAE	46
	xylophagous	*Platypus cylindrus*	CURCULIONIDAE	4
	xylophagous	*Pteleobius kraatzii*	CURCULIONIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Scolytus intricatus*	CURCULIONIDAE	52
	xylophagous	*Scolytus multistriatus*	CURCULIONIDAE	2
	xylophagous	*Scolytus pygmaeus*	CURCULIONIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Scolytus rugulosus*	CURCULIONIDAE	9
	xylophagous	*Scolytus scolytus*	CURCULIONIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Taphrorychus bicolor*	CURCULIONIDAE	23
	xylophagous	*Taphrorychus villifrons*	CURCULIONIDAE	2
	xylophagous	*Trypodendron signatum*	CURCULIONIDAE	2
	xylophagous	*Xyleborinus saxesenii*	CURCULIONIDAE	291
	xylophagous	*Xyleborus dryographus*	CURCULIONIDAE	4
	xylophagous	*Xyleborus monographus*	CURCULIONIDAE	122
	xylophagous	*Xylosandrus germanus*	CURCULIONIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Dromaeolus barnabita*	EUCNEMIDAE	46
	xylophagous	*Eucnemis capucina*	EUCNEMIDAE	4
	xylophagous	*Hylis olexai*	EUCNEMIDAE	2
	xylophagous	*Hylis simonae*	EUCNEMIDAE	7
	xylophagous	*Isorhipis melasoides*	EUCNEMIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Melasis buprestoides*	EUCNEMIDAE	12
	xylophagous	*Microrhagus pygmaeus*	EUCNEMIDAE	2
	xylophagous	*Microrhagus pyrenaeus*	EUCNEMIDAE	2
	xylophagous	*Dorcus parallelipipedus*	LUCANIDAE	2

Table S1 cont.

Group	Guild	Species	Family	Number of individuals
Saproxylic beetles (excl. Agrilinae) associated with deciduous trees	xylophagous	*Platycerus caraboides*	LUCANIDAE	50
	xylophagous	*Lymexylon navale*	LYMEXYLIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Anisoxya fuscula*	MELANDRYIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Conopalpus brevicollis*	MELANDRYIDAE	4
	xylophagous	*Conopalpus testaceus*	MELANDRYIDAE	6
	xylophagous	*Melandrya barbata*	MELANDRYIDAE	2
	xylophagous	*Phloiotrya tenuis*	MELANDRYIDAE	7
	xylophagous	*Mordella brachyura*	MORDELLIDAE	207
	xylophagous	*Mordella leucaspis*	MORDELLIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Mordellistena humeralis*	MORDELLIDAE	4
	xylophagous	*Mordellistena neuwaldeggiana*	MORDELLIDAE	25
	xylophagous	*Mordellistena variegata*	MORDELLIDAE	11
	xylophagous	*Tolida artemisiae*	MORDELLIDAE	2
	xylophagous	*Tomoxia bucephala*	MORDELLIDAE	44
	xylophagous	*Ischnomera caerulea*	OEDEMERIDAE	223
	xylophagous	*Nacerdes carniolica*	OEDEMERIDAE	54
	xylophagous	*Oedemera flavipes*	OEDEMERIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Gastrallus immarginatus*	PTINIDAE	7
	xylophagous	*Gastrallus laevigatus*	PTINIDAE	38
	xylophagous	*Gastrallus vavrai*	PTINIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Hadrobregmus denticollis*	PTINIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Hemicoelus costatus*	PTINIDAE	4
	xylophagous	*Hemicoelus fulvicornis*	PTINIDAE	3
	xylophagous	*Hyperisus plumbeum*	PTINIDAE	6
	xylophagous	*Mesocoelopus niger*	PTINIDAE	11
	xylophagous	*Oligomerus brunneus*	PTINIDAE	7
	xylophagous	*Ptilinus pectinicornis*	PTINIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Ptinomorphus imperialis*	PTINIDAE	51
	xylophagous	*Xyletinus pectinatus*	PTINIDAE	2
	xylophagous	*Cetonia aurata*	SCARABAEIDAE	37
	xylophagous	*Cetonischema speciosissima*	SCARABAEIDAE	22
	xylophagous	*Gnorimus nobilis*	SCARABAEIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Liocola marmorata*	SCARABAEIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Potosia fieberi*	SCARABAEIDAE	14
	xylophagous	*Valgus hemipterus*	SCARABAEIDAE	2
	xylophagous	*Anaspis fasciata*	SCRAPTIIDAE	35
	xylophagous	*Anaspis flava*	SCRAPTIIDAE	29
	xylophagous	*Anaspis frontalis*	SCRAPTIIDAE	277
	xylophagous	*Anaspis lurida*	SCRAPTIIDAE	100
	xylophagous	*Anaspis maculata*	SCRAPTIIDAE	134
	xylophagous	*Anaspis pulicaria*	SCRAPTIIDAE	11
	xylophagous	*Anaspis regimbarti*	SCRAPTIIDAE	66
	xylophagous	*Scraptia testacea*	SCRAPTIIDAE	4
	xylophagous	*Allecula morio*	TENEBRIONIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Gonodera luperus*	TENEBRIONIDAE	4
	xylophagous	*Mycetochara maura*	TENEBRIONIDAE	10
	xylophagous	*Nalassus laevioctostriatus*	TENEBRIONIDAE	2
	xylophagous	*Platydema violacea*	TENEBRIONIDAE	2
	xylophagous	*Prionychus ater*	TENEBRIONIDAE	1
	xylophagous	*Prionychus fairmairii*	TENEBRIONIDAE	29