

1 **Current range of *Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire, an alien pest of ash trees, in European Russia and Ukraine**

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55 *Agrilus planipennis* range in Europe in 2020

56  
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58 Emerald Ash Borer; EAB; *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*; *Fraxinus excelsior*; invasive pest; ash

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73  
74  
75 **Key message**  
76 The emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire), an alien pest native to Asia, has spread to Ukraine and 16  
77 regions of European Russia. It severely damages *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* Marsh. introduced from North America,  
78 but serious damage to European ash (*Fraxinus excelsior* L.) has not been detected in forests.

79  
80 **Abstract**  
81 **Context:**  
82 The first detection of *A. planipennis* in European Russia was in Moscow in 2003, when it began to spread.

83 **Aim:**  
84 To determine the range of *A. planipennis* as of 2020.

85 **Methods:**  
86 In 2017-2020, our Russian-Ukrainian research team examined >7000 *F. pennsylvanica* trees and >2500 *F. excelsior*  
87 trees in 84 localities of European Russia, Ukraine and Belarus.

88 **Results:**  
89 The current range exceeds the area of Spain and includes the Luhansk region of Ukraine and 16 regions of ER:  
90 Belgorod, Bryansk, Kaluga, Kursk, Lipetsk, Moscow, Orel, Ryazan, Smolensk, Tambov, Tula, Tver, Vladimir,

91 Volgograd, Voronezh, and Yaroslavl. *Agrilus planipennis* was not detected in Belarus. The overwhelming majority  
92 of the infestations were found on *F. pennsylvanica*. All known cases of infestation of the native species (*F.*  
93 *excelsior*) are from artificial plantings.

#### 94 **Conclusion**

95 *Agrilus planipennis* will appear in other European countries soon and damage *F. pennsylvanica*. Further surveys are  
96 necessary to determine whether *A. planipennis* infests *F. excelsior* in forests.

97

98 **Keywords:** Emerald ash borer; EAB; *Fraxinus pennsylvanica*; *Fraxinus excelsior*; invasive pest; ash

99

## 100 **1. Introduction**

101 The emerald ash borer, *Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire (Coleoptera: Buprestidae), is a devastating alien pest of ash  
102 trees in European Russia and North America (Baranchikov et al. 2008; Herms and McCullough 2014; Haack et al.  
103 2015). It is included in the list of 20 priority quarantine pests of the EU (EU 2019). The native range of this wood-  
104 boring beetle occupies a restricted territory in East Asia (Orlova-Bienkowskaja and Volkovitsh 2018). In 2003, *A.*  
105 *planipennis* was first recorded in European Russia, namely, in Moscow, and a severe outbreak and quick spread of  
106 the pest began (Baranchikov et al. 2008; Haack et al. 2015). By 2013, the pest was recorded in 9 regions of  
107 European Russia: from Yaroslavl in the north to Voronezh in the south (Straw et al. 2013; Orlova-Bienkowskaja  
108 2014a). A probabilistic model of spread made in 2017 showed that in the next few years, the range of *A. planipennis*  
109 in Europe could expand significantly, and the pest could appear in neighboring countries (Orlova-Bienkowskaja and  
110 Bieńkowski 2018a).

111 *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* Marsh. was introduced from North America and is widely planted in European  
112 Russia as an ornamental and landscape tree. It is highly susceptible to *A. planipennis* both in North America and  
113 Russia (Herms and McCullough 2014; Baranchikov et al. 2014). The overwhelming majority of detected  
114 infestations of ash trees in European Russia correspond to this North American ash species (Baranchikov et al. 2008;  
115 Straw et al. 2013; Orlova-Bienkowskaja 2014a, etc.).

116 The only native ash species in European Russia is *F. excelsior* L. It is susceptible to the pest (Baranchikov  
117 et al. 2014). However, it is still unknown whether it is highly susceptible (as are the ash species native to North  
118 America) or less susceptible (as are the ash species native to Asia). On the one hand, the only cultivar of *F. excelsior*  
119 tested in a naturally infested experiment in America, cv. *Aureafolia*, had similar long-term mortality as that of *F.*  
120 *nigra* and *F. pennsylvanica* (Herms 2015). On the other hand, current experiments have shown that saplings of *F.*  
121 *excelsior* are much less susceptible than *F. nigra* Marsh. to *A. planipennis* (Showalter et al. 2019). *Fraxinus*  
122 *excelsior* is rare in the Moscow region and other regions of northern and central Russia. Therefore, information  
123 about the infestation of *F. excelsior* by *A. planipennis* is scarce and refers only to urban plantings and artificial  
124 shelterbelts, where *F. excelsior* is planted together with *F. pennsylvanica* (Straw et al. 2013; Baranchikov 2018).  
125 There is no information about the impact of *A. planipennis* on *F. excelsior* in natural forests. Therefore, there is a  
126 great deal of uncertainty surrounding the likely future impact of *A. planipennis* on ash in European forests (Straw et  
127 al. 2013).

128 The main aim of our study was to determine the range of *A. planipennis* in Europe as of 2020. An  
129 additional aim was to obtain information about the current condition of *F. excelsior* in natural forest stands in some  
130 regions occupied by *A. planipennis*.

131

## 132 **2. Material and methods**

133 2.1. Collation of previous records of *A. planipennis*

134 We have studied the *A. planipennis* range in European Russia since 2013 and have carefully examined all records  
135 that have appeared in journal articles, conference papers, official quarantine documents and other sources. These  
136 records, which comprise all of the published data on localities where *A. planipennis* has been detected, are compiled  
137 in Table 1.

138 2.2. Localities of the survey

139 In 2017, 2018 and 2019, we examined more than 7000 green ash trees (*F. pennsylvanica*) and more than 2500  
140 European ash trees (*F. excelsior*) in 84 localities of European Russia, Belarus and Ukraine (Table 2, Figs 1, 2).

- 141 1. We examined ash trees in 7 Russian cities, where *A. planipennis* was found 4-16 years ago. The aim was to  
142 determine whether ash trees and populations of *A. planipennis* still existed there.
- 143 2. We examined ash trees in localities where *A. planipennis* had not been reported before. The aim was to  
144 determine the current range of the pest in Europe. We selected particular survey areas so that they were situated  
145 in all directions from the previously known range of *A. planipennis* in Europe. If we found the pest outside the  
146 previously known range, we conducted the next survey in a locality situated further in the same direction. We  
147 repeated this procedure until we found localities without the pest. This protocol was flexible since we used all  
148 possibilities to examine as many localities as possible.
- 149 3. We examined more than 500 *F. excelsior* in two localities in a large natural forest, Tulskie Zaseki, situated in  
150 the center of the current range of *A. planipennis* in European Russia. The aim was to determine whether there  
151 were trees infested with *A. planipennis* in this forest.

152  
153 2.3. Method of survey

154 The survey of ash trees in each city always started from the main railway station. Usually, we stayed one day in each  
155 city and examined as many ash trees as we could. In most localities we examined artificial plantings in cities, along  
156 motorways and railroads and in shelterbelts. The survey of 500 *F. excelsior* trees in the large Tulskie Zaseki Forest  
157 was conducted in two localities situated 25 km apart (see Table 2).

158 We used the standard method of *A. planipennis* detection used by many authors (Baranchikov and Kurteev  
159 2012; Straw et al. 2013, etc.). We looked for ash trees with symptoms of general decline (dieback of the upper part  
160 of the stem, reduced foliage, epicormic shoots, loose bark, etc.) (Fig. 3) and examined the lower part of the stem,  
161 below 2 m, for the presence of D-shaped exit holes of *A. planipennis* on the bark surface and larval galleries under  
162 the bark in the cambial region at the inner bark-sapwood interface (Figs 4, 5). If we found exit holes and larval  
163 galleries, we took photos and tried to collect larvae from under the bark and adults (live specimens on leaves or dead  
164 specimens in their exit holes). The larvae and adults were examined in the laboratory to confirm their identification  
165 and deposited in the authors' collections. The following guides were used for identification: Chamorro et al. (2012)  
166 and Volkovitsh et al. (2019). The map was made with ArcView GIS 10.4.1 (Esri) in A.N. Severtsov Institute of  
167 Ecology and Evolution, Russian Academy of Sciences, Moscow (Esri Customer Number 282718).

168  
169 **3. Results**

170  
171 3.1. European Russia

172 3.1.1. Localities with previous detections of *A. planipennis*

173 In 2019, we examined ash trees in 7 cities where *A. planipennis* was found 4-16 years ago: Moscow (first record in  
174 2003), Kolomna (2012), Zelenograd (2011), Vyazma (2012), Tula (2013), Tver (2015) and Zubtsov (2013) (see  
175 Table 1 for information about the first records). The overwhelming majority of ash trees in these localities were *F.*  
176 *pennsylvanica*, which is one of the most common trees planted in the cities of European Russia. *Fraxinus excelsior*  
177 also occurred sometimes but much more rarely. In all these localities, ash trees were still common, and populations  
178 of *A. planipennis* still existed. Larvae or adults were found in all these localities in 2019.

179 Moscow was the entry point of invasion of *A. planipennis* in European Russia. By 2013, most ash trees in  
180 the city were heavily damaged (Orlova-Bienkowskaja 2014b), and some experts believed that ash trees would  
181 disappear throughout the city (Mozolevskaya 2012). However, surveys in 18 districts of Moscow in 2016 and 2017  
182 showed that *F. pennsylvanica* was still common in the city, and *A. planipennis* had become rare (Orlova-  
183 Bienkowskaja and Bieńkowski 2018b). The survey in 2018 and 2019 confirmed this result. The reason for the  
184 decline in *A. planipennis* population in Moscow is unknown. It could be the result of mortality caused by the  
185 European parasitoid of *A. planipennis* *Spathius polonicus* Niezabitowski, 1910 (Hymenoptera: Braconidae:  
186 Doryctinae) (Orlova-Bienkowskaja and Belokobylskij 2014).

187 Infestations were found in all cities of the Moscow region surveyed by us in 2017-2019 (Table 2). In  
188 particular, a severe outbreak was recorded in 2019 in the city of Shakhovskaya. Almost all ash trees in the city were  
189 heavily infested. On 16 July 2019, more than 100 *A. planipennis* adults and larvae were collected there.

190

#### 191 3.1.2. Western regions: Tver, Pskov, Smolensk regions and St-Petersburg

192 We tried to find *A. planipennis* in 10 new localities of European Russia situated west and northwest of the border of  
193 the previously known range as of 2016: the Pskov region (Sebez and Velikie Luki), Smolensk region (Roslavl and  
194 Sychevka), Tver region (Bologoye, Ostashkov, Rzev, Torzhok, and Vyshniy Volochek) and St. Petersburg.  
195 However, we detected no signs of the infestation with *A. planipennis* in these localities. It is interesting that we  
196 failed to find *A. planipennis* even in the city of Rhev, which is only 15 km northwest of Zubtsov, where an outbreak  
197 of *A. planipennis* was detected in 2013 (Straw et al. 2013) and is still continuing (based on our observations in  
198 2019).

#### 199 3.1.3. Volgograd Region

200 In a planting of declining *F. pennsylvanica* trees (105 ha) on Sarpinsky Island in the Volga River (near the city of  
201 Volgograd) in October 2018 the trees were severely damaged by *A. planipennis*. The island is occupied by a  
202 floodplain forest, initially consisting of *Quercus*, *Populus*, and *Ulmus* trees, which was later replaced by an  
203 adventive plant: *F. pennsylvanica*. In different parts of the island, the infestation of ash trees varied from 20-30% to  
204 90-100%. The decline in the ash plantings because of *A. planipennis* outbreak attracted the attention of the local  
205 television company (Vesti Volgograd 2018). In 2019, infested trees were also detected on the left bank of the Volga  
206 River, in the Volga-Akhtuba floodplain, on the Sarepta Peninsula and in the center of Volgograd city (Mira Street).

207

#### 208 3.1.4. Kursk region

209 In 2014, we surveyed more than 100 *F. pennsylvanica* trees in Kursk city near the main railway station and did not  
210 find evidence of *A. planipennis* (Orlova-Bienkowskaja and Bieńkowski, unpublished data). In 2016, the survey in  
211 Kursk was repeated by an expert from the All-Russian Center of Plant Quarantine, Y.N. Kovalenko, and he also did  
212 not find *A. planipennis* (unpublished data). In 2019, we examined more than 100 *F. pennsylvanica* trees in plantings

213 along the railway near the main railway station in Kursk and found that at least half of the trees had *A. planipennis*  
214 exit holes. One dead adult specimen was collected in its exit hole. Additional examinations of *F. pennsylvanica* trees  
215 in the parks of Boeva Dacha and Pyatidesyatiletija VLKSM showed that many trees were in poor condition and had  
216 *A. planipennis* exit holes.

217

#### 218 3.1.5. Lipetsk region

219 The Lipetsk region is surrounded by the Tula, Orel, Ryazan, Voronezh and Tambov regions, where *A. planipennis*  
220 was found in 2013 (Orlova-Bienkowskaja 2014a), but M.J. Orlova-Bienkowskaja did not find any trees infested  
221 with *A. planipennis* in the city of Gryazy in the Lipetsk region in 2013. However, many *F. pennsylvanica* trees were  
222 in poor condition, and the species *Agrilus convexicollis* Redtenbacher, which is often associated with *A. planipennis*,  
223 was found (Orlova-Bienkowskaja and Volkovitsh 2014). In 2018, *A. planipennis* was first found in the Lipetsk  
224 region in the city of Elets (Baranchikov 2018). On 22 June 2019, we collected one adult *A. planipennis*  
225 approximately 40 km from Elets in plantings of *F. pennsylvanica* along the railway in Leski, Lipetsk region.  
226 Examination of 10 trees in this planting did not reveal exit holes, but all the trees of *A. planipennis* were in poor  
227 condition and had dieback in the upper canopy.

#### 228 3.1.6. Voronezh region

229 *Agrilus planipennis* was first detected in the Voronezh region in 2013 in the city of Voronezh (Orlova-Bienkowskaja  
230 2014a). In 2018, it was detected in other localities: in the very south of the region (50°12'N, exact location is not  
231 known) and in the city of Talovaya (Baranchikov et al. 2018a), as well as in Olkhovatskoe Lesnichestvo  
232 (Rosselkhoznadzor 2019). In 2019, we surveyed ash trees in four other localities of the Voronezh region. *Agrilus*  
233 *planipennis* was not found in the northeast of the region (Borisoglebsk and Povorino), but was found in the  
234 following areas in the center and south of the region:

235 1. Rossosh. More than 100 heavily infested *F. pennsylvanica* trees with larval galleries and exit holes were found in  
236 a shelterbelt around the Chkalovskij district (50.201158 N, 39.604695 E). One *F. pennsylvanica* and one *F.*  
237 *excelsior* with exit holes and larval galleries were found near the main railway station (50.184266 N, 39.600577 E).

238 2. Kantemirovka. One *F. pennsylvanica* with *A. planipennis* exit holes and larval galleries was found in the territory  
239 of the House of Culture (49.698968 N, 39.860308 E). Trees of *F. pennsylvanica* with *A. planipennis* exit holes and  
240 larval galleries were also found near a gas station on the R-194 road (49.758194 N, 39.843341 E).

#### 241 3.1.7. Belgorod region

242 *Agrilus planipennis* was first detected in the Belgorod region in May 2019 in several localities close to the Voronezh  
243 region and the border of Ukraine (Baranchikov and Seraya 2019). Our surveys of ash trees in the cities of Belgorod  
244 and Saryi Oskol in summer 2019 did not reveal *A. planipennis*. In January 2020 larval galleries and larvae were  
245 found in the north-east of the Belgorod region (Table 2).

#### 246 3.1.8. Kaluga region

247 *Agrilus planipennis* was first detected in the Kaluga region in Obninsk city in 2012 and in Kaluga city in 2013  
248 (Orlova-Bienkowskaja 2014a). A survey of more than 100 *F. pennsylvanica* trees in the city of Maloyaroslavets on  
249 31 August 2019 revealed *A. planipennis* exit holes and larval galleries on at least 50 of the trees.

#### 250 3.1.9. Bryansk region

251 The first survey of ash trees in the city of Bryansk was conducted in 2013 and did not reveal signs of infestation by  
252 *A. planipennis* (Orlova-Bienkowskaja 2014a). In 2019, *A. planipennis* was detected in Majsij Park in Bryansk by  
253 the National Plant Protection Organization, and an official phytoquarantine zone was declared there  
254 (Rosselkhoznadzor 2019). On 1 July 2019, we examined ash trees in other districts of Bryansk and found that *F.*  
255 *pennsylvanica* trees in M.P. Kamozin Square and on Krasnoarmejskaya, Ulyaniva and Kharkovskaja streets were  
256 heavily infested with *A. planipennis*.

257 3.1.10. Surveys of *F. excelsior* in the Tulskie Zaseki Forest in the center of the pest range in European  
258 Russia

259 The large broad-leaved Tulskie Zaseki Forest (65 000 ha) is situated in the Tula region in the center of the current  
260 range of *A. planipennis* in European Russia. *Fraxinus excelsior* is one of the main tree species of this forest. In 2013,  
261 *A. planipennis* was detected near this forest, in Tula and Shchekino as well as in the surrounding regions of Kaluga  
262 and Orel (Straw et al. 2013; Orlova-Bienkowskaja 2014a). *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* trees were very common in the  
263 cities of Tula and Shchekino, and almost all of them had been infested by *A. planipennis* (Baranchikov et al. 2018b  
264 and observations by I.A. Zabaluev). On 19-20 June 2019, more than 500 *F. excelsior* trees were examined in the  
265 Tulskie Zaseki Forest in two localities: near Krapivna village and in Severno-Odoevskoe Lesnichestvo. The trees  
266 were situated both along and within the forest. No signs of infestation by *A. planipennis* were found, and the trees  
267 appeared to be in good health.

268

269 3.2. Belarus

270 In 2017-2019, we tried to find *A. planipennis* in the eastern and central regions of Belarus in the cities of Borisov,  
271 Stolbtsy, Mogilev, Orsha, Vitebsk, Minsk, Krichev and Gomel. We did not find any signs of infestations despite *F.*  
272 *pennsylvanica* and *F. excelsior* being commonly planted in these cities (Table 2).

273 3.3. Ukraine

274 On 20-22 June 2019, ash trees in Starokozhiv Forest and field shelterbelts in its vicinity were examined (in the  
275 Markivka district of the Luhansk region of Ukraine). The forest consisted of *Acer platanoides* L., *F. excelsior*, *Pyrus*  
276 sp. and *Quercus* sp. The undergrowth and edges consisted of *Acer campestre* L., *Acer tataricum* L., *Fraxinus*  
277 *excelsior*, *F. pennsylvanica*, *Prunus fruticosa* Pallas. and *P. spinosa* L. The shelterbelts consisted mainly of *F.*  
278 *pennsylvanica*. During the examination of 250 ash trees, three *F. pennsylvanica* trees damaged by *A. planipennis*  
279 were detected. These trees were situated at the edge of the shelterbelts and had diameters of 7-10 cm. Characteristic  
280 D-shaped exit holes were situated at a height of 50-200 cm above the groundline. The infested trees had dieback of  
281 the upper branches, and foliage density was reduced (i.e., the trees had fewer and smaller leaves).

282 On 2 July 2019, we posted an early version of this manuscript on the Internet as a preprint (Orlova-  
283 Bienkowskaja et al. 2019). Immediately following the appearance of this preprint on the Internet, the National Plant  
284 Protection Organization of Ukraine conducted an official survey in the same area and did not detect *A. planipennis*.  
285 Since there were no specimens or photos for confirmation, our record of *A. planipennis* in Ukraine was considered  
286 unreliable (EPPO 2019a).

287 On September 4-6 2019, A.N. Drogvalenko visited the Markivka district in the Luhansk region of Ukraine  
288 again and repeated his survey of ash trees. He found the same three trees and more than 40 other *F. pennsylvanica*  
289 trees that were heavily infested with *A. planipennis*, took photos of larvae, larval galleries (Fig. 4) and exit holes and  
290 collected more than 20 larvae of different instars, including the last (4<sup>th</sup>) instar. The coordinates of these trees, from

291 which the larvae were collected, are as follows: 49.614991 N, 39.559743 E; 49.614160 N, 39.572402 E; and  
292 49.597043 N, 39.561811 E (roadside planting). The larvae were deposited in a collection in Kharkiv, Ukraine by  
293 A.N. Drogvalenko (Drogvalenko et al. 2019). After that, the presence of *A. planipennis* was also confirmed by the  
294 Ukrainian NPPO (EPPO 2019b). On October 22 2019, *A. planipennis* was found within 2 km radius from initial  
295 observation point outside the established quarantine zone (Meshkova 2019).

296 Our survey of ash trees in other localities of Ukraine (Luhansk region, Donetsk region and Kharkiv city)  
297 did not reveal any *A. planipennis* infestations despite both *F. pennsylvanica* and *F. excelsior* being usual in these  
298 regions and occurring in both natural forests and in plantings (shelterbelts and along roads) (Table 2, Fig. 2).

## 299 4. Discussion

### 300 4.1. Current borders of *A. planipennis* range in Europe

301 Previously published records (Table 1) and our surveys in 2017-2020 (Table 2) indicate that by 2020, *A. planipennis*  
302 occurred in the Luhansk region of Ukraine and in at least 16 regions of European Russia: Belgorod, Bryansk,  
303 Kaluga, Kursk, Lipetsk, Moscow, Orel, Ryazan, Smolensk, Tambov, Tula, Tver, Vladimir, Volgograd, Voronezh,  
304 and Yaroslavl (Fig. 1). It should be noted that these results were obtained by simple surveys of ash trees without the  
305 use of pheromone traps. Usually, the signs of *A. planipennis* become visible only several years after the  
306 establishment of this pest in a region (Haack et al. 2015). Therefore, the real range of *A. planipennis* in Europe  
307 could be even more extensive.

308 The westernmost known *A. planipennis* localities are in Semirechje (Zvyagintsev et al. 2015) and Smolensk  
309 city (Baranchikov and Seraya 2018) in the Smolensk region. In the northwest, the border of the range is near  
310 Zubtsov and Tver in the Tver region. The northernmost locality is Yaroslavl. The eastern border of the range in  
311 European Russia is poorly known. The extreme localities in this direction are Yaroslavl, Petushki (Vladimir region),  
312 Vysokoe (Ryazan region), Michurinsk (Tambov region) and Volgograd. However, it is unknown if this is the true  
313 eastern border of the range, since few surveys were conducted further east of these localities. The most eastern and  
314 the most southern known locality was Volgograd. In the southwest, the known border crossed the Bryansk, Kursk,  
315 Belgorod and Voronezh regions of Russia and the Luhansk region of Ukraine. In the southwest, the border of *A.*  
316 *planipennis* known range almost coincided with the Russian-Ukrainian border. Therefore, it is quite possible that *A.*  
317 *planipennis* will soon be found on the other side of the state border, in the Chernihiv, Sumy and Kharkiv regions of  
318 Ukraine.

### 319 4.2. Dynamics of the range since 2013

320 The northern and northwestern borders of *A. planipennis* range in European Russia in 2019 were almost the  
321 same as those in 2013. The northernmost locality–Yaroslavl–is at a latitude of 57.63 N, i.e., much further north than  
322 the northernmost locality of *A. planipennis* in North America (47.31 N) (Emerald Ash Borer Info 2019) and in Asia  
323 (49.42 N) (Orlova-Bienkowskaja and Volkovitsh 2018). Therefore, it is unknown whether *A. planipennis* can spread  
324 further north to St. Petersburg and northern Europe or if it has already reached its potential border in the north. To  
325 answer this question, an ecological model of the potential range of *A. planipennis* in Europe should be created,  
326 taking into account that the generation time in Moscow is 2 years (Orlova-Bienkowskaja and Bieńkowski 2016).

327 In the south, the situation is much worse. *Agrilus planipennis* is quickly spreading. It has now appeared in  
328 Ukraine and in the nearby areas of European Russia, such as the Volgograd, Bryansk, Kursk, Belgorod regions and  
329 the south of the Voronezh region.



330 4.3. Perspectives for European forestry

331 The distance from Moscow to Volgograd is more than 900 km, which is more than the distance from Moscow to  
332 Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. Obviously, the pest can be detected in any part of Eastern Europe. In addition, *A.*  
333 *planipennis* could soon appear in Kazakhstan, given that the distance between Volgograd and the border of  
334 Kazakhstan is approximately 150 km.

335 Since there are no infested *F. excelsior* trees in the large Tulske Zaseki Forest in European Russia, it seems  
336 that *F. excelsior* could be more resistant to the pest than ash species native to North America are, at least in natural  
337 forest stands. All cases of infestation of *F. excelsior* in Russia correspond to trees that grew near plantings of *F.*  
338 *pennsylvanica*. *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* is highly susceptible to *A. planipennis* and trees of this species are a source  
339 for the outbreak of the pest, which can also attack *F. excelsior* trees growing nearby. A similar situation was  
340 observed in China; in 1964, plantings of *Fraxinus americana* L. introduced from North America triggered the  
341 outbreak of *A. planipennis* in Harbin (Liu et al. 2003). The pest damaged both *F. americana* and native ash species  
342 in the region, but after the *F. americana* trees were cut, the outbreak ended.

343 *Agrilus planipennis* has not yet become a major forest pest in European Russia or Ukraine. It occurs in  
344 artificial plantings, such as urban plantings, along roads, railroads and in shelterbelts. The overwhelming majority of  
345 infested and dead trees are *F. pennsylvanica*. The only ash species native to European Russia, *F. excelsior*, is also  
346 susceptible to *A. planipennis*, but there is still no evidence of the widespread mortality of this ash species in  
347 European forests. There is no doubt that *A. planipennis* will severely damage plantings of *F. pennsylvanica* in  
348 Europe. However, the prognosis for the future of *F. excelsior* in European forests is still uncertain.

349 **5. Conclusion**

350 In just 16 years, following the first record in Europe, *A. planipennis* has spread over an area of 600 000 km<sup>2</sup> (i.e., its  
351 current range exceeds the area of Spain). The range includes 16 regions of European Russia and the Luhansk region  
352 of Ukraine. The pest is quickly spreading to the south and will undoubtedly appear in other European countries  
353 soon. No expansion of the range to the north has been detected since 2013. No case of serious *A. planipennis*  
354 damage to *F. excelsior* in European forests has been detected yet. Therefore, it is still unknown whether *A.*  
355 *planipennis* will become a devastating forest pest in Europe or just a pest of urban plantings. An extensive survey of  
356 the European ash (*F. excelsior*) in natural forests is necessary to determine the future possible impact of *A.*  
357 *planipennis* on European forests. We hope that this article will encourage experts from different European countries  
358 to study *A. planipennis* before this pest reaches the EU.

359

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485 **Tables**

486 **Table 1** Previously published records of *Agrilus planipennis* in European Russia.

Region	Locality	Year of first detection	Sources of information
Moscow reg.	Moscow ( <i>A. planipennis</i> occurs all over the city)	2003	Baranchikov et al. 2008; Izhevskii and Mozolevskaya 2010; Straw et al. 2013
Moscow reg.	Manikhino	2006	Baranchikov et al. 2008
Moscow reg.	Serpukhov	2009	Baranchikov et al. 2010
Moscow reg.	Mozhaisk	2009	Baranchikov et al. 2010
Moscow reg.	Mytiszhi	2009	Baranchikov et al. 2010
Moscow reg.	Pushkino	2009	Baranchikov and Kurteev 2012
Moscow reg.	Zelenograd	2011	Orlova-Bienkowskaja 2014b
Moscow reg.	Kolomna	2012	Orlova-Bienkowskaja 2014a
Smolensk reg.	Localities along the Moscow-Vyazma road	2012	Baranchikov and Kurteev 2012
Moscow reg.	Sergiev Posad	2012	Baranchikov and Kurteev 2012
Ryazan reg.	Vysokoe	2012	Baranchikov 2013
Tula reg.	Shchekino	2013	Straw et al. 2013
Tver reg.	Zubstov	2013	Straw et al. 2013
Tver reg.	Novozavidovskiy	2013	Straw et al. 2013
Tver reg.	Emmaus	2013	Straw et al. 2013
Moscow reg.	Uzunovo	2013	Orlova-Bienkowskaja 2014a
Moscow reg.	Klin	2013	Orlova-Bienkowskaja 2014b
Moscow reg.	Staraya Kupavna	2013	Orlova-Bienkowskaja 2014a
Voronezh reg.	Voronezh	2013	Orlova-Bienkowskaja 2014a
Tula reg.	Tula	2013	Orlova-Bienkowskaja 2014a
Kaluga reg.	Kaluga	2013	Orlova-Bienkowskaja 2014a
Tver reg.	Konakovo	2013	Orlova-Bienkowskaja 2014b
Orel reg.	Orel	2013	Orlova-Bienkowskaja 2014a
Yaroslavl reg.	Yaroslavl	2013	Orlova-Bienkowskaja 2014a
Tambov reg.	Michurinsk	2013	Orlova-Bienkowskaja 2014a
Vladimir reg.	Petushki	2013	Baranchikov 2013
Orel reg.	Livny	2013	Rosselkhoznadzor 2014
Moscow reg.	Solnechnogorsk	2014	Orlova-Bienkowskaja and Belokobylskij 2014
Moscow reg.	Planernaya	2014	Orlova-Bienkowskaja and Bieńkowski 2016
Moscow reg.	Povarovka	2014	Orlova-Bienkowskaja and Belokobylskij 2014
Smolensk reg.	Semirechje	2014	Zvyagintsev et al. 2015
Smolensk reg.	Andreykovo	2014	Zvyagintsev et al. 2015
Tver reg.	Khiminstituta settlement	2015	Peregudova 2016
Voronezh reg.	Talovaya	2018	Baranchikov et al. 2018a

Lipetsk reg.	Elets	2018	Baranchikov et al. 2018a
Smolensk reg.	Smolensk	2018	Baranchikov and Seraya 2018
Tver reg.	Doroshiha railway station	2018	Peregudova 2019
Voronezh reg.	Olkhovatskoe Lesnichestvo	2018	Rosselkhoznadzor 2019
Bryansk reg.	Majskij Park	2019	Rosselkhoznadzor 2019
Belgorod reg.	Roven'ki	2019	Baranchikov and Seraya 2019
Belgorod reg.	Eriomovka	2019	Baranchikov and Seraya 2019
Belgorod reg.	Nagorie	2019	Baranchikov and Seraya 2019
Belgorod reg.	Aidar	2019	Baranchikov and Seraya 2019
Voronezh reg.	Novobelaya	2019	Baranchikov and Seraya 2019

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490 **Table 2.** Surveys of ash trees in Russia, Ukraine and Belarus in 2017-2020. The localities where *Agrilus planipennis* was detected are marked with red. The localities where *A.*  
 491 *planipennis* was not detected are marked with green. New localities of detection are marked with the label "New". Types of plantatings: F – forest, U – urban, M – along the  
 492 motorway, R – along the railway, and B – shelterbelts. Surveys were made by AA – Andrzej A. Bieńkowski, AB – Andrzej O. Bieńkowski, AD – Alexander N. Droghvalenko, AR –  
 493 Alexander B. Ruchin, AS – Alexey S. Sazhnev, AV – Alexey N. Volodchenko, EK – Evgenij V. Komarov, EP – Elena Yu. Peregudova, IZ – Ilya A. Zabaluev, LE – Leonid V.  
 494 Egorov, ML – Mikhail V. Lavrentiev, MO – Marina J. Orlova-Bienkowskaja, PZ – Pavel A. Zavalishin, RI – Roman N. Ishin, SM – Sergey G. Mazurov, TN – Tatyana V. Nikulina,  
 495 VA – Vasilij V. Anikin, VM – Vladimir V. Martynov, and VS – Vitalij V. Struchaev.

Region	Locality	No. examined ash trees ( <i>Fraxinus</i> )		Kind of plantings	Signs of infestation with <i>A.</i> <i>planipennis</i>	Year of survey	Surveyor
		<i>pennsylvanica</i>	<i>excelsior</i>				
Russia							
Belgorod reg.	Belgorod	>50	>50	U & R	No	2019	VS
Belgorod reg.	Glukhovka (New)	6	–	M	Larval galleries, larvae	2020	PZ
Belgorod reg.	Staryj Oskol	>100	–	U	No	2019	AA
Bryansk reg.	Bryansk	>100	5	U	Exit holes, larval galleries	2019	IZ
Chuvashia	Cheboksary	>100	–	U	No	2017	LE
Kaluga reg.	Maloyaroslavets (New)	>100	–	U	Exit holes, larval galleries	2019	AA
Krasnodar reg.	Krasnodar	>50	10	U	No	2018	MO, AB
Krasnodar reg.	Sochi	–	>50	U & F	No	2018	MO, AB
Kursk reg.	Kursk (New)	>20	>30	U & R	Exit holes, one dead adult	2019	VS
Lipetsk reg.	Leski (New)	10	–	R	One live adult	2019	SM
Mordovia	Saransk	>50	>50		No	2019	AR
Moscow	Moscow	>100	–	U	Live adults, larvae, exit holes	2019	MO, AB
Moscow reg.	Dedinovo (New)	20	–	U	Live adults, larvae, exit holes	2017	MO, AB
Moscow reg.	Kolomna	>50	–	U	Larvae, exit holes	2017	MO, AB
Moscow reg.	Shakhovskaya (New)	>100	2	U	Live adults, larvae, exit holes	2019	MO, AB
Moscow reg.	Stupino (New)	>100	–	U	Exit holes, larval galleries	2017	MO, AB
Moscow reg.	Zelenograd	>100	–	U	Larvae, one dead adult, exit holes	2019	MO, AB
Pskov reg.	Sebezh	–	122	U	No	2019	MO, AB
Pskov reg.	Velikie Luki	>100	>100	U	No	2019	MO, AB
Rostov reg.	Azov	> 50	–	U & M	No	2019	TN, VM
Rostov reg.	Bokovskaya	> 50	–	M	No	2017	TN, VM
Rostov reg.	Kamensk-Shakhtinskiy	> 100	–	M	No	2017	TN, VM

Rostov reg.	Kashary	> 30	–	M	No	2017	TN, VM
Rostov reg.	Millerovo	> 50	–	M	No	2017	TN, VM
Rostov reg.	Morozovsk	> 50	–	M	No	2017	TN, VM
Rostov reg.	Razdorskaya	> 50	–	M	No	2017	TN, VM
Rostov reg.	Rostov-on-Don	> 100	20	U	No	2019	TN, VM
Rostov reg.	Shakhty	> 50	–	U & M	No	2017	TN, VM
Rostov reg.	Taganrog	> 50	–	M	No	2019	TN, VM
Saratov reg.	Balashov	>100	>50	U	No	2019	AV
Saratov reg.	Saratov	>100	>100	U	No	2019	ML, VA
Smolensk reg.	Roslavl	>50	>50	U	No	2019	IZ
Smolensk reg.	Sychevka	22	8	U	No	2019	MO, AB
Smolensk reg.	Vyazma	107	67	U	One dead adult, larvae, exit holes	2019	MO, AB
St.-Petersburg	St.-Petersburg	>100	–	U	No	2018	MO, AB
Tambov	Tambov	>50	>50	U	No	2019	RI
Tula reg.	Tula	>100	–	U	Fresh exit holes, traces of adult feeding on leaves	2019	IZ
Tula reg.	Tulskie Zaseki: Krapivna	–	>250	F	No	2019	IZ
Tula reg.	Tulskie Zaseki: Severno-Odoevskoe Forest	–	>250	F	No	2019	IZ
Tver reg.	Bologoye	53	5	U	No	2019	MO, AB
Tver reg.	Ostashkov	76	8	U	No	2019	MO, AB
Tver reg.	Rzev	99	–	U	No	2019	MO, AB
Tver reg.	Torzhok	82	9	U	No	2019	EP
Tver reg.	Tver	134	–	U	Adults, larvae, exit holes	2019	EP
Tver reg.	Vyshniy Volochek	103	6	U	No	2019	EP, MO, AB
Tver reg.	Zubtsov	>100	–	U & M	Larvae, exit holes	2019	MO, AB
Volgograd reg.	Volgograd (New)	>500	–	F	Adults, larvae, exit holes	2018– 2019	EK
Voronezh reg.	Borisoglebsk	24 in the city and >100 in the forest	21 in the city and >500 in the forest	U & F	No	2019	MO, AB
Voronezh reg.	Kantemirovka (New)	>100	–	U & M	Exit holes, larval galleries	2019	MO, AB
Voronezh reg.	Povorino	47	–	U	No	2019	MO, AB
Voronezh reg.	Rossosh (New)	>100	1	U & B	Exit holes, larval galleries	2019	MO, AB
Yaroslavl reg.	Borok	15	–	U	No	2019	AS
Belarus							



Gomel reg.	Gomel	>100	1	U	No	2019	AA
Minsk reg.	Borisov	>100	5	U	No	2017	MO, AB
Minsk reg.	Stolbtsy	>100	–	U	No	2018	MO, AB
Minsk reg.	Minsk	>100	–	U	No	2019	AS
Mogilev reg.	Mogilev	>100	21	U	No	2018	MO, AB
Mogilev reg.	Krichev	>50	20	U	No	2019	IZ
Vitebsk reg.	Orsha	>100	7	U	No	2018	MO, AB
Vitebsk reg.	Vitebsk	>100	11	U	No	2018	MO, AB
Ukraine							
Donetsk	Donetsk	>300	>100	U, F, M	No	2019	TN, VM
Donetsk reg.	Amvrosievka	> 300	> 100	M, B, F	No	2019	TN, VM
Donetsk reg.	Debal'tsevo	> 100	–	M	No	2019	TN, VM
Donetsk reg.	Marinovka	> 50	–	M	No	2019	TN, VM
Donetsk reg.	Novoazovsk	> 100	–	U, B, M	No	2019	TN, VM
Donetsk reg.	Starobeshevo	> 100	–	M & B	No	2019	TN, VM
Donetsk reg.	Uspenka	> 100	–	M	No	2019	TN, VM
Kharkiv reg.	Kharkiv	>50	>50	U	No	2019	AD
Luhansk reg.	Starokozhiv Forest (New)	>100	>100	B & F	Larvae, exit holes	2019	AD
Luhansk reg.	Alchevsk	> 100	–	M	No	2019	TN, VM
Luhansk reg.	Antratsit	> 100	–	U, R, M	No	2019	TN, VM
Luhansk reg.	Chervonopartizansk	> 100	–	M	No	2019	TN, VM
Luhansk reg.	Dolzhanskoe	> 100	–	M	No	2019	TN, VM
Luhansk reg.	Izvarino	> 100	–	M	No	2019	TN, VM
Luhansk reg.	Kolpakovo	–	> 300	F	No	2019	TN, VM
Luhansk reg.	Krasnodon	> 100	> 50	U, M	No	2019	TN, VM
Luhansk reg.	Krasnyj Kut	> 100	–	U, M	No	2019	TN, VM
Luhansk reg.	Krasnyj Luch	> 100	–	M	No	2019	TN, VM
Luhansk reg.	Luhansk	> 100	–	U, F, M	No	2019	TN, VM
Luhansk reg.	Lutugino	> 100	–	M	No	2019	TN, VM
Luhansk reg.	Orehovo	> 100	> 20	M, F	No	2019	TN, VM
Luhansk reg.	Pershovzanovka	> 50	> 10	M, F	No	2019	TN, VM
Luhansk reg.	Sverdlovsk	> 100	> 20	U, M	No	2019	TN, VM
Luhansk reg.	Zelenopol'e	> 100	–	M	No	2019	TN, VM

496

497 **Captions of figures**

498

499 **Fig. 1** Range of *Agrilus planipennis* in European Russia (R) and Ukraine (U) in 2020. The red dots indicate the  
500 localities where *A. planipennis* was detected. The green squares indicate the localities where it was not detected  
501 during surveys in 2017-2019. The black circle indicates the localities of the surveys of *Fraxinus excelsior* in the  
502 broad-leaved Tulske Zaseki Forest. BR – Bryansk region (R), BE – Belgorod (R), KA – Kaluga region (R), LI –  
503 Lipetsk region (R), LU – Luhansk region (U), MO – Moscow region (R), OR – Orel region (R), RY – Ryazan  
504 region (R), SM – Smolensk region (R), TA – Tambov region (R), TU – Tula region (R), TV – Tver region (R), VG  
505 – Volgograd region (R), VL – Vladimir region (R), VO – Voronezh region (R), and YA – Yaroslavl region (R). The  
506 sources are shown in Tables 1 and 2.

507

508 **Fig. 2** Results of the surveys in the eastern part of Ukraine (U) and the neighboring regions of Russia (R). The red  
509 dots indicate the localities where we detected *A. planipennis* in 2017-2019. The green squares indicate the localities  
510 where *A. planipennis* was not detected during surveys in 2017-2019. BE – Belgorod region (R), DO – Donetsk  
511 region (U), KH – Kharkiv region (U), LU – Luhansk region (U), RO – Rostov region (R), and VO – Voronezh  
512 region (R).

513

514 **Fig. 3** *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* tree heavily damaged by *Agrilus planipennis* in Vyazma, Russia in June 2019.  
515 Symptoms of general decline: dieback of the upper part of the stem and epicormic shoots. Photo by M.J. Orlova-  
516 Bienkowskaja.

517

518 **Fig. 4** Adults of *A. planipennis* and their exit holes.

519 **a.** Adults of *Agrilus planipennis* in pupal cells on *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* in Volgograd, Russia in 2018. Photo by  
520 E.V. Komarov.

521 **b.** Exit hole of *Agrilus planipennis* on *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* in Volgograd, Russia in 2018. Photo by E.V.  
522 Komarov.

523 **c.** Dead adult *Agrilus planipennis* found in Kursk in its exit hole on *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* in July 2019. Photo by  
524 V.V. Struchaev.

525 **d.** Adult of *Agrilus planipennis* on a leaf of *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* in Volgograd, Russia in 2018. Photo by E.V.  
526 Komarov.

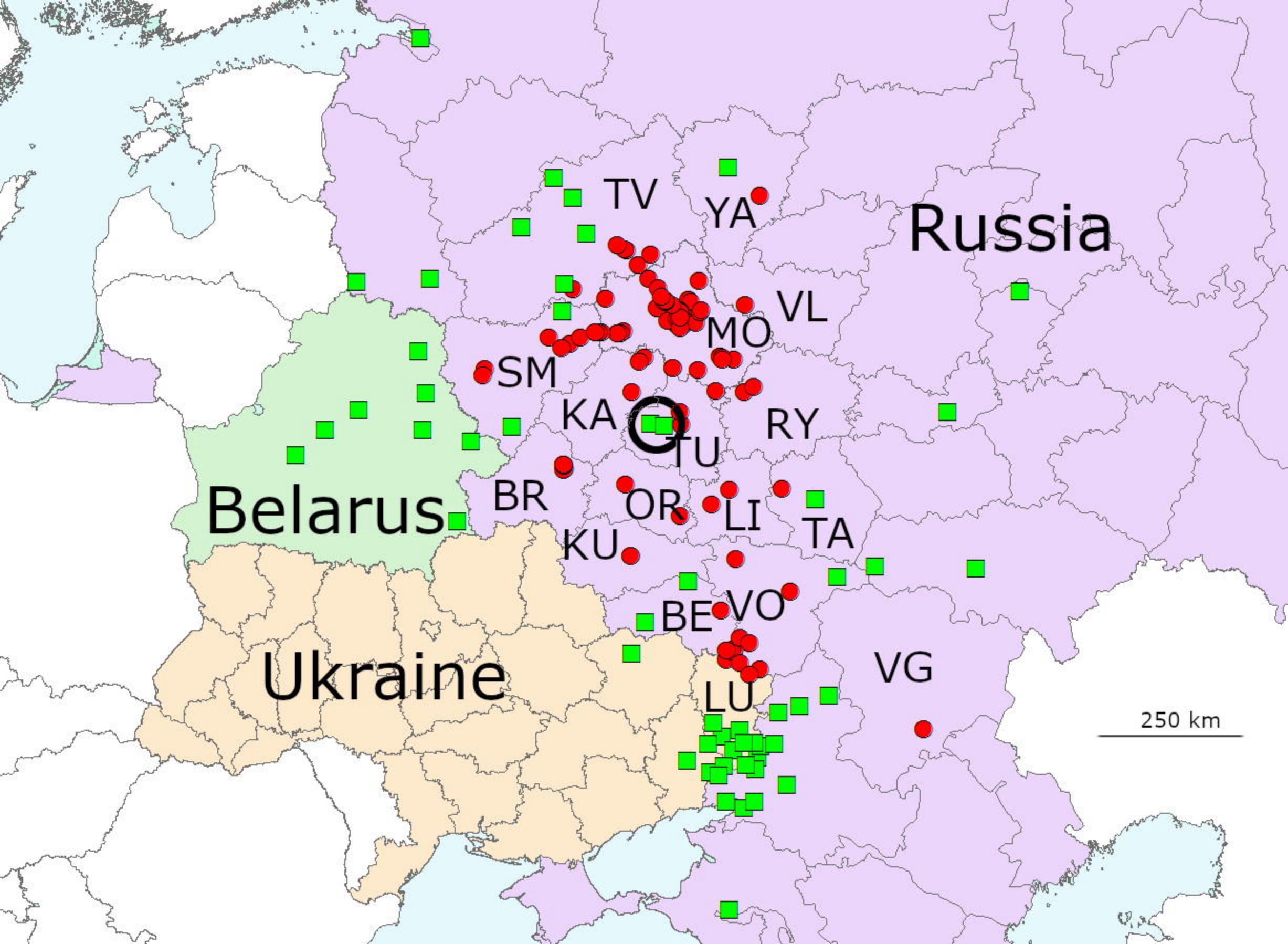
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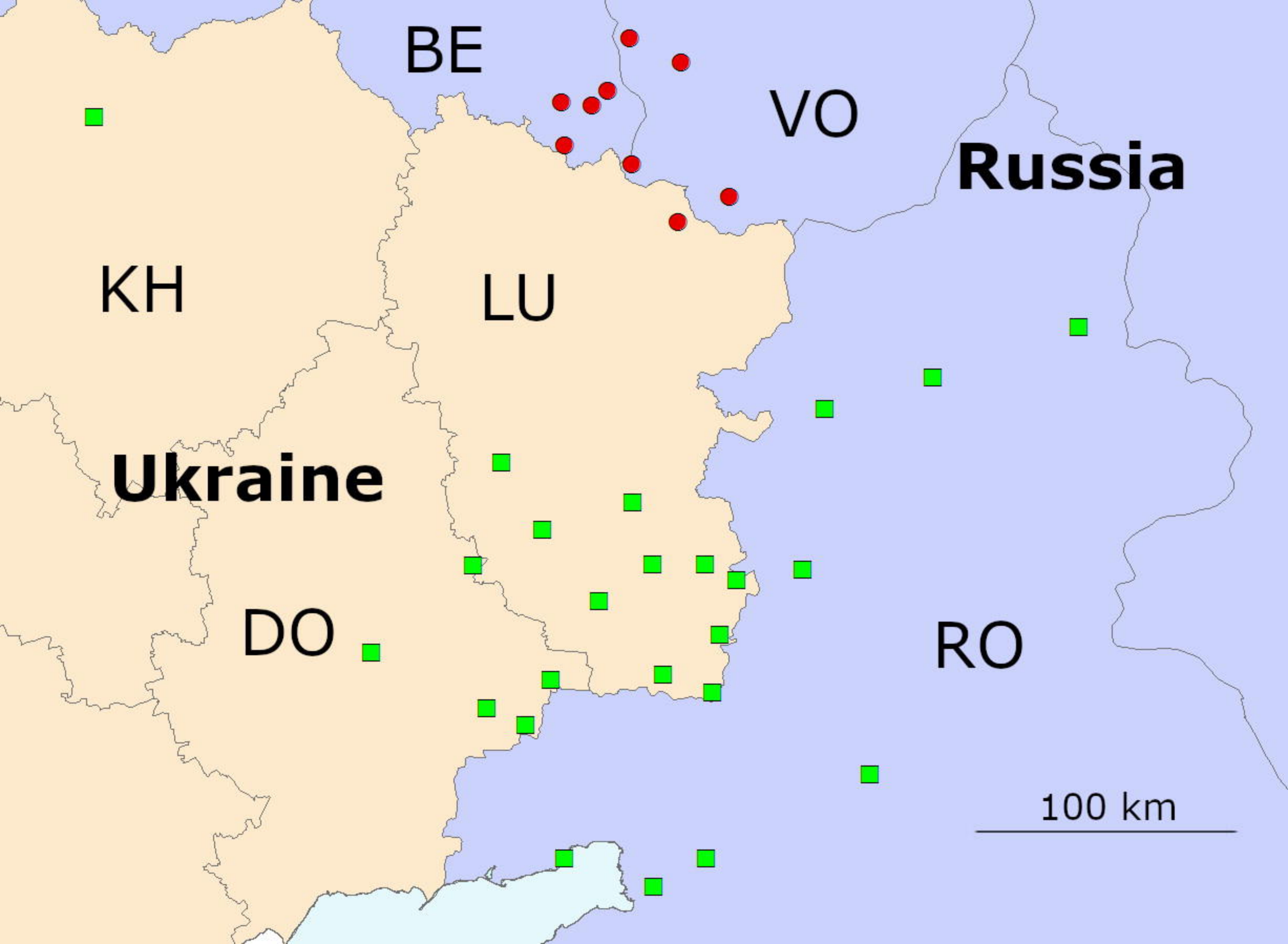
528 **Fig. 5** Larvae and larval galleries of *Agrilus planipennis* in *Fraxinus pennsylvanica* in the Luhansk region of  
529 Ukraine in September 2019. Photo by A.N. Droghvalenko.

530

531

532





BE

VO

**Russia**

KH

LU

**Ukraine**

DO

RO

100 km





