

MANAGEMENT & CONTROL

Pheromone traps are very effective in the control of the Red Palm Weevil.

ECONOMIC IMPACT



Death of Palm tree infested by the Red Palm Weevil.

Red Palm Weevil can devastate a coconut industry, destroying trees and causing severe financial losses for farmers and the national economy. RPW destroys coconut, date and royal palms all of which are critical to the landscape, beauty and appeal of the Caribbean's tourism product. Its impact on the tourism sector could be economically significant both in terms of loss of landscapes and the costs to operators to try to control the pest or replace trees.

WHAT CAN WE DO?

- Do NOT bring into your country any palm material from infested countries.
- When you travel declare all agricultural items.
- If you see or suspect the presence of the RPW, report it immediately to your Ministry or Department of Agriculture.
- If RPW is in your country Follow all control recommendations from your Ministry or Department of Agriculture



PEST THREATS TO THE REGION RED PALM WEEVIL



Rhynchophorus ferrugineus

Red palm Weevil (RPW) or Asian palm Weevil or Indian palm Weevil, *Rhynchophorus Ferrugineus* is the most dangerous and deadly pest of palms, including coconut, date, royal and talipot. It also infests agave and sugarcane.

PROTECT

Safeguard our agriculture & environment do NOT bring in undeclared vegetative material.

DETECT

Monitor for Signs & Symptoms of Red Palm Weevil

REACT

Report any suspected signs of Red Palm Weevil to your Ministry or Department of Agriculture.

RED PALM WEEVIL

Rhynchophorus ferrugineus

Early Red Palm Weevil infestations can be difficult to detect. Adult Red Palm Weevils are very large beetles, attaining body lengths, including the rostrum of 35 to 40mm (1.4-1.6 inches). One weevil is enough to kill a tree as a female can lay 58- 531 eggs



SYMPTOMS OF RPW DAMAGE

- Tunnels on the trunk and base of the leaf; oozing with a typical fermented odor from the tunnels.
- Drooping / yellowing of leaves, trunk may break and the crown may topple and palm dies.



Initial Palm Weevil Infestation



Palm Weevil Infestation eight weeks later

WHERE CAN THE RPW BE FOUND?

Red Palm Weevil is native to Southeast Asia and it can be found in:

- **Asia:** Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, Pakistan, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Taiwan, Thailand, Vietnam.
- **Africa:** Algeria, Canary Islands, Egypt, Libya, Madagascar, Malta, Morocco.
- **Middle East:** Bahrain, Georgia, Iran, Iraq, Israel, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Oman, Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Syria, United Arab Emirates.
- **Europe:** Baelearic Islands, Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Sicily, Slovenia, Spain, Turkey.
- **Oceania:** Australia, Papua New Guinea, Samoa, Solomon Islands.
- **USA:** California.
- **Caribbean:** Aruba, Curacao.

HOW IS IT SPREAD?

The Red Palm Weevil can spread from one country to the next through the movement of infested palm material. Within a country, the red palm weevil can easily spread as adult weevils are strong fliers and can fly up to 900m (about 900 yds) at a time and can travel up to 7 km in 3-5 days.



R.ferrugineus larva, pupa, and adult (Image courtesy of Center for Invasive Species Research)