



HAVE YOU SEEN THIS BEETLE?

PAROPSISTERNA BEATA

BACKGROUND

This beetle is commonly known as Eucalyptus leaf beetle.

It is an Australian native species.

It was first found at Whiteman's Valley, Upper Hutt in August 2012.

Several adults and eggs have been detected which indicates a breeding population exists in the area.

Current distribution is unknown and it is unknown how long it has been in New Zealand.

Adults spread by flying short distances.

The only known hosts recorded in New Zealand so far are Eucalypt species.



Adult Photo courtesy of MPI, PHEL

Adults are large (about 1cm), dark brown or black with large red spots. Adults can be found on tree trunks, under bark or on leaves.

IMPACTS

Impacts on Eucalypts are unknown at this stage.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) is conducting passive surveillance to determine distribution of the beetle.

Please report sightings of this beetle to MPI by ringing the Ministry's pest and disease hotline **0800 80 99 66**.

It will be helpful to have photos, samples and the location where you detected it.

Adults can be found on tree trunks, under bark or on leaves. Larvae and eggs can be found on leaves.

www.mpi.govt.nz
0800 80 99 66