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#### USING TRAP TREES FOR MONITORING AND CONTROL OF BARK BEETLE *PITYOGENES CHALCOGRAPHUS* (L.) ON MOUNTAIN ZVIJEZDA

### Korištenje lovnih stabala za praćenje i suzbijanje potkornjaka *Pityogenes chalcographus* (L.) na planini Zvijezdi

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#### Abstract

Bark beetles are the most important pests of the coniferous forests. Although they are considered to be a secondary pest, they are becoming the primary pests that attack healthy trees. One of the important spruce bark beetle is the *Pityogenes chalcographus* (L.) - a small spruce beetle. The research was conducted in the municipality of Vareš, on three locations: Ponikva, Pobrin Han, Doli. The active period of the bark beetle for development began in the last decade of April. P. chalcographus in the field of research had two generations. For the development of generations it took between 12 and 13 weeks. Weather conditions in the object of research did not allow the completion of the second generation. The activity of the bark beetle ends in mid-September. When we talk about the characteristics of wood material which prefers small bark beetle of spruce, we can say that he prefers to inhabit thinner parts of trunk with thin and smooth rind. In the object of research for monitoring of population of bark beetle P. chalcographus was used trap trees. As a measure to combat the small spruce bark beetles are strongly advised in due time, autumn and winter, remove the dried trees and trees with drilled bark beetles. Maintenance and establishment of forest order to reduce the amount of wood material suitable for the settlement of bark beetles.

*Key words:* spruce, Pityogenes chalcographus (L.), control of the bark beetles, trap trees.

### **INTRODUCTION - Uvod**

Bark beetles (*Coleoptera, Curculionidae*) are first-class pests in our conifer forests. They belong to the most important pests of coniferous forests in the Palearctic region (PFEFER, 1995; CHRISTIANSEN AND BAKKE, 1988). Given to its importance, they are considered the most important fauna. In case of stable forest ecosystems, bark beetles along with other organisms, make constitutive component heterotrophs consumers and then represent no threat to forest stands. In these stands, bark beetles are not primary pests, and can not exceed the critical threshold number. Usually

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inhabit trees with reduced vitality, and only in the outbreak (graduation) bark beetles become primary pests.

Economically the most important, and at the same time the most dangerous, insects on spruce are *Ips typographus* and *Pityogenes chalcographus* (CHRISTIANSEN AND BAKKE, 1988; WERMELINGER ET AL., 2012; SCHROEDER, 2013; MONTANO ET AL., 2016). Often, due to the favorable conditions for their colonization and reproduction, they lead in question the survival of entire forest complexes, and the forest estate is being removed from the normal course of commerce. The mass appearance of bark beetles is conditioned by weather conditions and the general physiological condition of the stands (GEORGIJEVIĆ, 1962; GAVRILOVIĆ AND KORPIČ, 1992). Material for colonization of bark beetles are physiologically weakened trees. Especially favorable conditions are found on freshly harvested timber and under conditions where of forest disorganization, where can be found or a lot of suitable material for bark beetle development. Particularly attractive is the harvested wood mass that was affected by the influence of wind and snow during the winter. If damaged trees remain in the forest untreated, they can be attacked by bark beetles during the vegetation, and next vear too (GÖTHLIN ET AL., 2000). The attack of bark beetles as a natural process in the forests is partially enlarged due to the negligence of forest hygiene and noncompliance with the regulations on the production of forest wood assortments - the conifers are no longer peeling after regular harvesting. All of this can contribute to an increase in the usual quantities of attacked conifer trees in the stands (HRAŠOVEC ET AL., 2012).

Until the seventies of the last century for control and combat bark beetle was widely used mechanical method called "trap trees". For trap trees according to MIHAJLOVIĆ (2008), some defective and depressed trees should be chosen, as well as those with less technical values. Freshly harvested trees attract bark beetles that are bore to them in order to reproduction. When insects bore in trap tree, then the bark is peeled off and need to be burned. In the case where under bark, bark beetles are at the stage of the larvae and the pupa, it is sufficient to turn only the peeled bark so that the part with the sapwood is turned to the sun. For effective use of this method, it is necessary to place a sufficient number of trap trees and in that way prevent the attack of bark beetles on the living trees. Usually, the number of trap trees being set ranges from 1 to 10% of the total number of trees that have been dried. Trap trees can attract bark beetles to distances up to 0,8 km (KRIEGER, 1998).

For timely barking of trap trees, it is necessary to continually perform control to determine the stage in which the bark beetles are. The barking should start as soon as under bark is found development stages of the eggs and larvae. For the first generation of bark beetles it is usually three weeks after a strong attack of the bark beetles, and for the second generation of two weeks. If it is for some reason barking is delayed, bark beetles can attack adjacent unaffected trees. In this case, this method does not give the desired results and helps the spread of the bark beetles, which is one of the main deficiency of the use of trap trees (KOVAČEVIĆ, 1951). There are two types of trap trees - fallen and standing. Fallen trap trees are more suitable for use in practice. Trap trees are set up in trap trees series to catch the bark beetles of the first and second generations. Trap trees on which the branches are located, in the interior of the stands, are faster dry than trap trees without branches. The reason for this is transpiration of the crown for some time. However, in the sunny parts the situation is reversed. Branches are dried faster and stop transpirating while simultaneously making a certain type of overshadow that loses moisture more slowly. Harvesting of trees should be done before the first insect swarming to keep the tree wet for a certain amount of moisture. This means that the first trap trees should be dropped about 40 days before the first insect swarming. When trap trees are used to suppress of bark beetle *Pityogenes chalcographus*, it is advisable to choose tree with a thinner bark (FITZE, 1954).

Trap trees should be planted on the edges of the stand where the canopy of trees is not complete so that the trees are half a day in the light and half a day in the shade. The use of trap trees as a measure of the fight against bark beetles is ecologically acceptable.

#### MATERIAL AND METHODS - Materijal i metode

The research was conducted on three localities: 1. Pobrin Han (Department 21, Management Unit "Gornja Stavnja" and Department 125, Management Unit "Gornja Trstionica Bukovica"); 2. the locality Ponikva (Department 30 and 61 Management Unit "Gornja Stavnja"); 3. the locality Doli (Department 21 and 25 Management Unit "Gornja Misoča"). On March 20, 2008, 12 trees of the first series were placed in three localities by four trees (Picture 1). The trees belonged to a diameter class of 10 to 80 cm with differently characterized type of bark. For trap trees, completely healthy and unobtrusive trees with different ribs and thickness of the bark were harvested. A total of 36 trap trees were placed, four trees on each site of the study in three series. On trap trees, data were collected on the invasion of the bark beetles, and the bionomy. Inlet holes on trap trees are recorded on pre-marked surfaces of 4  $dm^2$  (40 cm x 10 cm) (Picture 2). The distance between these surfaces on the tree was 2 m. On each 2<sup>nd</sup> meter were marked three surfaces of 4 dm<sup>2</sup>, one on the upper side of the trap tree and two on the sides. On each surface, the type of bark was determined: thick coarse (> 4 mm), thick smooth (> 4 mm) and thin smooth (< 4 mm) thin. The method of placing the surface on the part of the trap tree located at the top of the crown differed slightly. Due to the smaller number of trees in these parts, the surfaces are located so that one is positioned in front of the other behind the measured spot. The cropping of branches was not carried out, but only those branches that were broken when harvesting the trees. The marking of the surface was done first with a small trigger, so that the dead part of the bark was removed without damaging the sapwood, and then with the waterproof felt pen was marked contour of surface of 4 dm<sup>2</sup>.

Using trap trees for monitoring and control of Bark beetle Pityogenes chalcographus (L.) On mountain Zvijezda



Picture 1 and 2. Harvested trap tree (left), debarking process the marked area (right) Slike 1 i 2. Oboreno lovno stablo (lijevo), postupak skidanja kore sa označenih površina (desno)

Every ten days was carried out a review of marked areas on trap trees. The observed inlet holes are marked with a waterproof felt pen. Each time was used second color felt pen, all in order to better control the inlet holes. Recording of the inlet holes is done in specially prepared manuals. At the end of the generation, the correction was done by carefully debarking the marked surfaces and comparing the inlet holes with maternal corridor. Based on the average number of inlet holes per dm<sup>2</sup>, was established the intensity of the attack according to the following scale: <0,5 inlet holes/dm<sup>2</sup> - weak intensity, 0,5-1 inlet holes/dm<sup>2</sup> - medium intensity and >1 inlet holes/dm<sup>2</sup> - strong intensity (ŠVETSKA ET AL., 2009). The debarking material removed after drying and was stored, and the remaining bark from trap trees was removed and burnt.

The collected data provide basic information on the density, numeracy and bionomy of *P. chalcographus*. Also, after processing the data, it is determined which type of wood material prefers this bark beetle. Systematized data are processed using standard statistical methods in MS Excel 2007 and SPSS 18 program.

#### **RESULTS - Rezultati istraživanja**

On the basis of the recordings of the inlet holes was determined the stream of inlet holes in trees (Fig. 1) and the development phases of *P. chalcographus* was shown in Table 1.

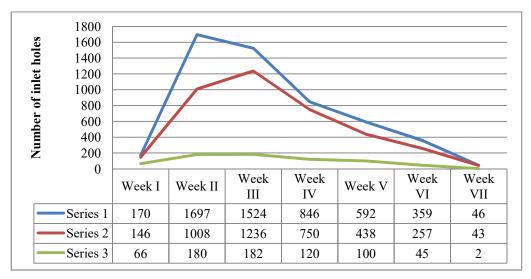


Figure 1. Inlet holes of bark beetles of *P. chalcographus* in trap trees *Grafikon 1. Tok ubušivanja potkornjaka P. chalcographus u lovna stabla* 

Table 1. Development stages of *P. chalcographus* in object of research Tabela 1. Razvojne faze potkornjaka *P. chalcographus* u objektu istraživanja

Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr	:	Ma	y	Jı	un.		J	ul.		A	ug	•	S	ep	t.	(	Dct	•	N	Jov	7.	Γ	)ec.
	Larv	/ae																								
	Pup	ae																								
	Ima	go	o I-gen.			Si	s.g	en.	n.																	
						Eg	gg			E	gg															
										L	arv	ae							Larvae							
										Pupae Puj			upa	ae												
													II	[-ge	en.		Imago									
	Overw	vinter	i		1	Act	ivit	y c	of b	arl	t be	etl	les				Overwinter									

One of the objectives of the research is to determine the thickness of the wood material according to which *P. chalcographus* has affinity. Therefore, when selecting trap trees was taken into account their diameter structure (Table 2).

Trap series	Number	Total				
Thap series	10,0-19,9	20,0-29,9	30,0-49,9	50,0-79,9	i otai	
1 <sup>st</sup>	3	3	4	2	12	
2 <sup>nd</sup>	3	3	4	2	12	
3 <sup>rd</sup>	3	2	4	3	12	
Total	9	8	12	7	36	

Table 2. Diameter structure of trap trees by trap seriesTabela 2. Debljinska struktura lovnih stabala po lovnim serijama

In Table 3 are shown the basic data about inlet holes of *P. chalcographus* by trap series.

Table 3. Review of number of inlet holes of bark beetle *P. chalcographus* by trap series *Tabela 3. Pregled broja ubušivanja potkornjaka P. chalcographus po lovnim serijama* 

Trap	Number of trap trees	Min. number of inlet holes	Max. number of inlet holes	Average number of inlet holes	Standard deviation	Variance
1 <sup>st</sup>	12	88	1073	436,2	312,1	97375,4
2 <sup>nd</sup>	12	159	798	323,2	190,5	36272,9
3 <sup>rd</sup>	12	11	195	57,75	61,7	381,1

For the purpose of determining the significance of the difference in the average number of bark beetles *P. chalcographus* per trap series, the t-test for independent samples was used, and the results are shown in Table 4.

Table 4. Analysis of significance of the difference in the average number of bark beetles *P*. *chalcographus* per trap series

	t-test for in	ndependent	samples							
		Trap tree series								
	$1^{st}$	2 <sup>nd</sup>	1 <sup>st</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>				
Average	436,17	323,17	436,17	57,75	323,17	57,75				
	97375,4	36272,8	97375,4	3801,1	36272,8	3801,1				
Variance	2	8	2	1	8	1				
Observation	12	12	12	12	12	12				
	66824,1		50588,2		20037,0					
Pondered variance	5		7		0					
Hypothetical difference of average	0		0		0					
df	22		22		22					
t - Calculated	1,071		4,121		4,593					
P (T<=t) One side	0,148		0,000		0,000					
t – Critic one side	1,717		1,717		1,717					
P (T<=t) Two sided	0,296		0,000		0,000					
t – Critic two sided	2,074		2,074		2,074					

Tabela 4. Analiza značajnosti razlika u prosječnom broju ubušivanja potkornjaka *P. chalcographus* po lovnim serijama

The null hypothesis was set: "There are no statistically significant differences in the average number of inlet holes of bark beetle *P. chalcographus* in the trees of different trap series." By testing, it was found that there are no significant differences in the average number of inlet holes of bark beetle *P. chalcographus* between the  $1^{st}$  and  $2^{nd}$  trap series. Significant differences in average number of inlet holes were found between  $1^{st}$  and  $3^{rd}$  trap series, and  $2^{nd}$  and  $3^{rd}$  trap series.

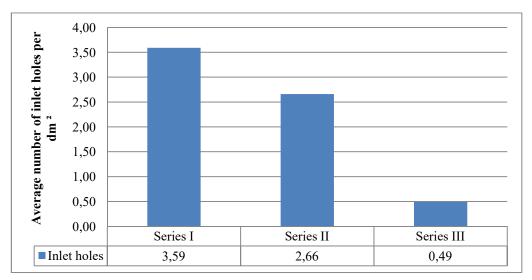


Figure 2. Intensity of attack of bark beetle *P. chalcographus* by trap series *Grafikon 2. Intenzitet napada potkornjaka P. chalcographus po lovnim serijama* 

The strong intensity of the attack of a small spruce bark beetle was recorded on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> trap series, and weak on the 3<sup>rd</sup> trap series. Record of inlet holes was done by sections. The length of the section is 2 m and they are set along from stump to the top of tree, and on each section was measured mean diameter. Based on data of the section diameter and the number of inlet holes, it is tried to determine the thickness of the wood material preferred by the small spruce bark beetle (Table 5). A hi-squares test was used to analyze the significance of the diameter dependence and the number of inlet holes. The null hypothesis was set: "There are no statistically significant differences in the intensity of the attack of a small spruce bark beetle by the thickness of the wood material (section)."

Table 5. Analysis of the significance of the difference in the intensity of the attack of the P. *chalcographus* by the thickness of the wood material

Tabela 5. Analiza	značajnosti razlika	u u	intenzitetu	napada	potkornjaka	Р.	chalcographus
prema debljini drvi	10g materijala						

Observed frequencies											
				Inlet holes							
Diameter of section				otal number	E	xpected numb	Total				
I (<	<20,0 cm)			7259		256	7,25	9826,25			
II (20	,0-29,9 cm)			2554		256	7,25	5121,25			
III (30	),0-39,9 cm)			373		256	7,25	2940,25			
IV (	>40,0 cm)			83		256	7,25	2650,25			
	Total			10269		10	269	20538			
		Exp	ected	frequencies							
				Inle	et hol	es					
Diame	ter of section		То	otal number	E	xpected numb	er	Total			
I (<	(20,0 cm)			4913,125		4913,	,125	9826,25			
II (20	,0-29,9 cm)			2560,625 2560,625			,625	5121,25			
III (30	III (30,0-39,9 cm)			1470,125 1470,125			125	2940,25			
IV (	IV (>40,0 cm)			1325,125 1325,125			,125	2650,25			
	Total			10269 10269			20538				
Cale	culations (fo-f	e)		Ca	alcula	ations (fo-fe)^	2/fe				
	Inlet	t holes				Inle	t hole	s			
Diameter of section	Total number	Expect numb		Diameter of section		f Total number		Expected number			
I (<20,0 cm)	2345,9	-23	345,9	I (<20,0 cn	n)	1120,09		1120,09			
II (20,0-29,9 cm)	-6,6		6,6	II (20,0-29 cm)		0,02		0,02			
III (30,0-39,9		10	,	III (30,0-39	,9	)					
cm)	-1097,1	10	97,1	cm)		818,76		818,76			
IV (>40,0 cm)	-1242,1	12	242,1	IV (>40,0 c	m)	1164,32		1164,32			
Data				Results							
	Significance			Critical				7,814728			
Number of	f rows		4	4 Statist		$\lambda^2$ test		6206,382			
Number of c			2	p-value				0,000			
Degrees of t	freedom		3	The null hypothesis is rejected				ed			

The analysis shows that there is a difference in the intensity of the attack the small spruce bark beetle on wood materials of different thicknesses.

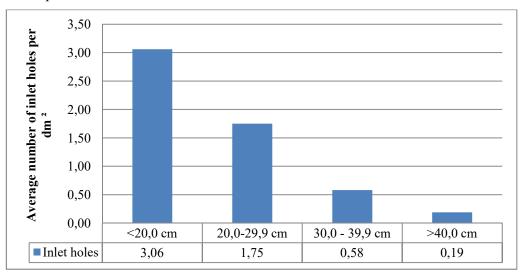
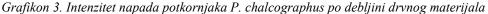


Figure 3. Intensity of attack of bark beetle *P. chalcographus* by the thickness of the wood material



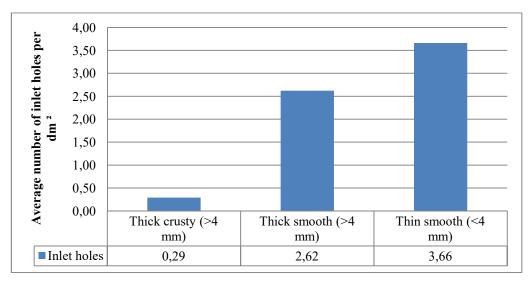
Strong intensity of attack of the small spruce bark beetle was on wood material thinner than 30 cm, medium-strong to the wood material 30-40 cm and weak intensity on wood materials over 40 cm. In order to determine the roughness and thickness of the bark, according to which *P. chalcographus* has affinity, it was conducted bark typing on trap trees. All bark thicknesses more then 4 mm were considered to be thick, and all bar thinner then 4 mm was thin. So we finally had three types of bark: thick barky (> 4 mm), thick smooth (> 4 mm) and thin smooth (<4 mm). Table 6 shows the analysis of the significance of the difference in the intensity of the attack of a small spruce bark beetle by the type of bark. The null hypothesis was set: "There are no statistically significant differences in the intensity of the attack of a small spruce bark beetle by a different type of bark." For the analysis of significance in the intensity of the attack of a small spruce bark beetle bark beetle, a hi-squared test was used.

Table 6. Analysis of significance in the intensity of the attack of bark beetle *P.chalcographus* by a different type of bark

* *		Obse	erved f	requencies				
		et hole	es					
Type of bark				Total number Expected number				Total
Thick ba	arky (>4 mm)			406		3	423	3829
Thick sm	nooth (>4 mm)			3449		3	423	6872
Thin sm	ooth (<4 mm)			6414		3	423	9837
	Total			10269		10	269	20538
		Expe	ected f	requencies				
				Inle	et hole	es		
Тур	e of bark		То	tal number	Ех	spected numb	er	Total
Thick barky (>4 mm)				1914,5		191	4,5	3829
Thick smooth (>4 mm)				3436	3436 3430			6872
Thin smooth (<4 mm)				4918,5		491	8,5	9837
	Total			10269		10	269	20538
Calo	culations (fo-fe	:)		Ca	alcula	tions (fo-fe)^2	2/fe	
	Inlet	holes		Inlet ho			t hole	s
Type of bark	Total number	Expect numb		Type of bark		Total number		xpected umber
Thick barky	-1508,5	15	508,5	Thick bark	y	1188,60		1188,60
Thick smooth	13		-13	Thick smoo	oth	0,05		0,05
Thin smooth	1495,5	-14	95,5	Thin smoot	th	454,72		454,72
	Data					Results		
Significance			0,05	Critical value			5	,9914645
Number of	f rows		3	Statist	tical λ	<sup>2</sup> test	3	286,7276
Number of c	columns		2	p-value				0,000
Degrees of f	reedom		2	The null hypothesis is rejected				d

Tabela 6. Analiza značajnosti razlika u intenzitetu napada potkornjaka P.chalcographus prema tipu kore

The results of the analysis show that there is a significant difference in the intensity of the attack of a small spruce bark beetle by type of bark.



Graphic 4. Intensity of attack of bark beetle *P. chalcographus* by type of bark *Grafikon 4. Intenzitet napada potkornjaka P. chalcographus po tipu kore* 

The strong intensity of the attack of a small spruce bark beetle was established on a thin smooth and thick smooth bark, while on a thick barky bark was a low intensity of attack.

### **DISCUSSION - Diskusija**

After the first spring swarming for the first generation, on June 20, it was found increased number of made inlet holes on the trap trees for the generating a sister generation (Figure 1, table 1). The second generation was cut off in mid-September due to cooling and less favorable weather conditions. Based on the seasonal catch of a small spruce bark beetle we can say that in 2008, in the object of the research was a medium intensity of attack. Under our conditions, the small spruce bark beetle has a double generation (GAVRILOVIĆ AND KORPIČ, 1992; JURC ET AL., 2006; B ZUBRIK ET AL., 2008; BERTHAU ET AL., 2013). At higher altitudes this beetle can only have one generation. In the field of research, according to our results, in 2008 the small spruce bark beetle was interrupted due to unfavorable weather conditions that occurred in the research facility.

In the field of research, 36 trap trees were placed in three trap series. Each trap series had 12 trees. In each trap series, trees were represented with their breast diameter classes in the following thicknesses: 10,0-19,9 cm, 20,0-29,9 cm, 30,0-49,9 cm and 50,0-79,9 cm (Table 2). The smallest number of inlet holes was recorded on the tree belonging to the  $3^{rd}$  trap series, and the largest number of inlet holes on the tree from the  $1^{st}$  trap series. The highest average number of inlet holes is in the  $1^{st}$  trap

series and is 436,2 per tree. The average number of inlet holes in the  $2^{nd}$  trap series is 323,2 and in  $3^{rd}$  57,8 per tree (Table 3). The test showed that there were no significant differences in the average number of inlet holes of a small spruce bark beetle between  $1^{st}$  trap series and  $2^{nd}$  trap series. Significant differences in average number of inlet holes were determined between  $1^{st}$  trap series and  $3^{rd}$  trap series, and between  $2^{nd}$  trap series and  $3^{rd}$  trap series (Table 4). Such results are explained by the fact that the bark beetle *P. chalcographus* had one pure and one sister generation and inlet holes was found on the  $1^{st}$  and  $2^{nd}$  trap series. The number of inlet holes in the  $1^{st}$  trap series was the largest and amounted to 3,59 inlet holes/dm<sup>2</sup>; the intensity dropped in the following trap series (Figure 2). According to the number of inlet holes per dm<sup>2</sup>, we can say that on the trees of  $1^{st}$  and  $2^{nd}$  trap series was a strong intensity of attack, while on the  $3^{rd}$  trap series was weak.

One of the aims of this study was to determine of which wood material, in terms of thickness, *P. chalcographus* has an affinity. For that purpose, the trap trees are divided into sections with a length of 2 m, and on each section is measured mean diameter. All sections are divided into four categories of wood mass based on the average diameter: <20,0 cm, 20,0-29,9 cm, 30,0-39,9 cm and >40,0 cm. The analysis found that there is a difference in the intensity of the attack of small spruce bark beetle on wood material of different thicknesses categories (Table 5). The intensity of small spruce bark beetle is the largest on wood material less than 20 cm thick and it is 3,06 inlet holes/dm<sup>2</sup>. The intensity of the small spruce bark beetle decreases with the increase of the diameter of the wood material, and on the wood material with a thickness more then 40 cm, it was found 0,19 inlet holes/dm<sup>2</sup> and it is evaluated as weak intensity of attack (Figure 3). According to DAUTBAŠIĆ AND ČABARAVDIĆ (2001), older trees in our conditions are attacked by bark beetle *I. typographus*, while the younger are attacked by bark beetle *P. chalcographus*. We can conclude that the small spruce bark beetle has a higher affinity for the thin trees and thinner wood material.

The difference in the intensity of the attack of P. chalcographus against a different bark type (Table 6) was also determined. For this purpose, on the analyzed parts of the tree, bark typing was performed. Each type of bark is characterized by a certain appearance of the surface (rough, smooth) and by thickness. For the purposes of this paper, a total of three types of barks are defined: thick rough (> 4 mm), thick smooth (> 4 mm) and thin smooth (<4 mm). The results of the analysis showed that there is a difference in the intensity of attack of the small spruce bark beetle according to the type of bark. The intensity was strong in the case of the "thin smooth" and "thick smooth" bark, and the low intensity was related to the type of "thick rough" bark (Figure 4). The type of "thin smooth" bark is mainly associated with thin wood material and younger trees, so we can say that these are precisely the characteristics of a tree and a bark that is preferred by small spruce bark beetle (ZAHIROVIĆ ET AL., 2016). According to MEŠIĆ ET AL. (2010) and GRUNWALD (1986), bark beetle I. typographus most likely attacks parts of the tree with a bark thickness of about 5 mm. In biological terms, there is a great resemblance to the six-footer of the dead-end of the bottom and the scribble scribe. The basic difference is in the micron that they choose P.

*chalcographus* chooses the thinner parts of the trunk of the spruce, and *I. typographus* vice versa.

### **CONCLUSIONS** – Zaključci

Spruce in European countries is considered the most important conifer species. In Bosnia and Herzegovina, it is behind the fir and beech significance, and makes 1/3 of all our coniferous forests. Bark beetles are among the most significant pests of coniferous forests. In stable forest ecosystems they represent secondary pests. When the stability of forest ecosystems is disturbed, and gradation of bark beetle occurs, they become primary pests. High temperatures, which are the consequence warm summers, have a negative effect on the forest ecosystem, and positively to the gradation of bark beetles. Based on our research we can make the following conclusions:

- *P. chalcographus* is one the most important bark beetles on the spruce. He most often comes in gradation with the *I. typographus*.
- Knowing the characteristics of a small spruce bark beetle is crucial for the application of adequate control measures and the fight against gradation.
- *P. chalcographus* in the object of research had one pure and one sister generation, and between 12 and 13 weeks was needed for the development of the one generation.
- Weather conditions in the research object did not allow to complete of the second generation.
- The activity of this bark beetle starts in the last decade of April and ends in mid-September. From mid-September to the last decade of April of next year, bark beetles overwinter.
- When we talk about the characteristics of wood material that prefers a small bark beetle, we can say that the most desirable wood material is thin trunk part with thin and smooth bark.
- As a measure of the fight against small spruce bark beetle it is certainly recommended timely, autumn and winter, removing of infested trees and trees with inlet holes. Establishment of forest order to reduce the amount of wood material suitable for settlement of bark beetles.

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### SAŽETAK

Potkornjaci su najvažnije štetočine četinarskih šuma. Iako se ubrajaju u sekundarne štetnike, u prenamnoženju postaju primarni štetnici, te napadaju zdrava stabla. Jedan od važnijih smrčinih potkornjaka je *P. chalcographus* (L.) – mali smrčin potkornjak. Istraživanje je provedeno na području općine Vareš, na tri lokaliteta: Ponikva, Pobrin Han, Doli. Aktivni period ovog potkornjaka započinje u zadnjoj dekadi aprila. *P. chalcographus* na području objekta istraživanja imao je jednu čistu i jednu sestrinsku generaciju, a za razvoj generacije bilo je potrebno između 12 i 13 sedmica. Vremenski uslovi u objektu istraživanja nisu dozvoljavali završetak druge generacije. Aktivnost ovog potkornjaka počinje u zadnjoj dekadi aprila, a završava polovinom septembra. Od polovine septembra do zadnje dekade aprila naredne godine, potkornjaci su u fazi prezimljavanja. Kada govorimo o karakteristikama drvnog materijala koji preferira mali smrčin potkornjak, možemo reći da najradije naseljava tanje partije debla sa tankom i glatkom korom. Kao mjere borbe protiv malog smrčinog potkornjaka svakako se preporučuje pravovremeno, jesenje i zimsko, uklanjanje osušenih stabala i stabala u koje su se ubušili potkornjaci.

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