

**Damage of *Acalolepta nivosa* (White, 1858) (Lamiinae: Cerambycidae) on *Nerium oleander* (Apocynaceae)**

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The adults of *Acalolepta nivosa* (White, 1858) (Lamiinae: Cerambycidae) was originally described from Sri Lanka with speculation on its distribution in India. Later, it has been documented in Madhya Pradesh, Himalaya (Majumdar *et al.*, 2014), Maharashtra (Bhawane *et al.*, 2015) and Kerala (Namboodri and Ghosh, 2020).

*Nerium oleander* (Apocynaceae) planted for ornamental purpose in the highways of Dharmapuri (12.2227° N, 78.1923° E) in the in some home gardens of residential area and temple premises of Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore (11.0168° N, 76.9558° E) exhibited swellings at the base of the plants. On examination of the swellings, grubs and pupae of *Acalolepta nivosa* were observed inside the swollen portion (Fig. 1). The adults (Fig.2) were also collected from these plants. Previously, *A. nivosa* has been observed as a pest on *Artocarpus heterophyllus* (Moraceae) (Gavas, 2018). Further, it has also been reported feeding on *Calotropis gigantea*, *Stephanotis floribunda* (Apocynaceae) and *Kydia calcinea* (Malvaceae) (Beeson and Bhatia, 1939). The adults of *A. nivosa* have been observed on dead rotting wood in Maharashtra (Bhawane *et al.*, 2015).

The study on its distribution and detailed study on the biology on different hosts remains to be studied.



**Right: Grubs of *Acalolepta nivosa* within the swelling in *Nerium oleander*, Left: *Acalolepta nivosa***

## References

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