

From: Gibbs, Ann [Ann.Gibbs@maine.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, April 24, 2007 8:41 AM
To: Mike Cooper
Cc: Bob Mungari (E-mail); Gary Gibson (E-mail)
Subject: PPQ Administrator's Award from EPB

Attachments: PPQ award letter.doc; PPQ award NY - 06 sirex survey.doc; PPQ award NY 07.doc

Mike,

I'd like to submit this nomination from the EPB for the PPQ Administrator's Outstanding Achievement Award for consideration and support from the NPB. The EPB will be submitting this nomination directly to PPQ, but was hoping to get an endorsement from the NPB. I have included a submission letter to PPQ, a list of participants and a summary of the program and a detailed submission of the Sirex survey for 2006. A number of maps outlining various aspects of the survey were not included with this electronic submission. Hard copies could be made available if necessary. I think this project is worthy of this award as it demonstrates a wonderful example of interagency cooperation.

Thanks for your consideration and let me know if you have any questions concerning this submission.

Best,
Ann
President EPB

Ann Gibbs
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Phone (207) 287-3891
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<<PPQ award letter.doc>> <<PPQ award NY - 06 sirex survey.doc>> <<PPQ award NY 07.doc>>



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April 24, 2007

Paula Henstridge
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Dear Paula:

On behalf of the Eastern Plant Board I am pleased to submit the attached nomination for consideration for the PPQ Deputy Administrator's Outstanding Achievement Award. The 2006 *Sirex noctilio* survey was a multi state initiative requiring the resources, cooperation and assistance of federal and state agricultural and forestry disciplines working together towards a common goal. I believe the attached submission reflects what can be achieved and what must be achieved in addressing future emerging plant pest issues.

Thank you for your consideration and should you have any questions concerning this nomination, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

E. Ann Gibbs
President

Member States

Connecticut • Delaware • Maine • Maryland • Massachusetts • New Hampshire
New Jersey • New York • Pennsylvania • Rhode Island • Vermont • West Virginia

PPQ Deputy Administrator's Outstanding Achievement Award Submission Form

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Jerry Carlson, Chief Research Scientist, Forest Health and Protections			
Jason Denham, Sr. Forester			

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RATIONALE FOR NOMINATION

The discovery of the *Sirex* Woodwasp following a CAPS Exotic Bark Beetle Survey and corresponding delimiting survey in 2005ⁱ provided evidence of pest establishment near the Port of Oswego in upstate New York. Following a meeting of an international panel of experts (*Sirex* Science Advisory Panel) a recommendation to conduct a delimiting survey was promulgatedⁱⁱ. The implementation of the recommended action consisted of the placement of more than 1,936 traps throughout the states of New York, Pennsylvania and Vermont. The 2006 *Sirex* Delimiting Survey effort represents an outstanding achievement in the integration of federal and state agricultural and forestry Departments and Agencies towards a common objective.

Neither the appropriation for the delimiting survey nor the available manpower within the federal and state agricultural workforce could support the SAP recommended trap density requiring the dedication of permanent federal and state agricultural staff and the assistance of State Department of Natural Resource Foresters to implement the survey. Furthermore because of its emerging plant pest status survey cooperators required trainingⁱⁱⁱ, supplies and taxonomic support provided through Cornell University, the Forest Service and USDA-APHIS.

The detection methodology depended upon aerial mapping of host stands^{iv} provided through the state DNR's and the Forest Service. Ground truthing aerial overlays with the selection of "hot zones" within the 25 square mile quadrants increased the probability of pest detection in accordance with the CAPS early pest detection philosophy. Coordinates or centroids for each quadrant^v had to be distributed with instructions and apparatus to obtain and submit GPS coordinates for all trap locations. The mobilization of complimentary workforces and the logistics of distributing supplies^{vi} over a broad geographical area required the full cooperation of participating agencies, departments and staff. The coordination^{vii} of trap monitoring, sample collection, data submission and the redistribution and placement of traps based upon detections, although challenging, was successfully accomplished.

This endeavor was not accomplished solely by the temporary workforce hired under cooperative agreement funding, but required the cooperation, dedication and assistance of the permanent federal and state workforces. The 2006 *Sirex noctilio* survey established a partnership and template for responding to continuing and emerging plant pest detections. It demonstrated the ability to transcend from an early detection initiative to a "delimiting" phase. Without this partnership it is doubtful we could have accomplished and compiled the distribution records^{viii} for this potentially serious pest of pine.

Due to the size and scope of the survey it was necessary for each surveyor to navigate to selected grids and locate suitable pine stands for trap deployment. This was accomplished through the use of Arc Map generated maps which illustrated the layout of each grid as well as the presence of pine in conjunction with landmarks. Grids were produced by New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets and pine stand layer was produced by the U.S Forest Service.

For personnel that did not have a mobile GIS application, paper copies of these maps were produced with the GPS centroid of each grid. This allowed surveyors to mark the centroid of each grid as a way point in their GPS. This provided assurance that they were in the correct grid.

Data was collected using hand held PDAs with ISIS as the collection application. ISIS data was synchronized at the end of each day into the APHIS server in Fort Collins where survey managers had access to data about the servicing of traps, samples submitted, and trap locations. ISIS was also used for the first time as part of the identification process by Cornell's Entomology Department. Taxonomic data was entered into ISIS about samples collected. This data was also synchronized with the Fort Collins server.

The accomplishment of the delimitation survey provided a much clearer picture of the distribution of this pest in the Northeast. It identified 20 additional counties as being infested in New York and 2 new counties in Pennsylvania. This data will be instrumental in the development of a plan of response to the infestation. It has already been applied in terms of a survey strategy for 2007 and the implementation of a bio-control strategy. Together with the information presented by CFIA the North American *Sirex* infestation is substantially different from that presumed in 2005^{ix}.

It also demonstrated the ability of federal and state agencies to agree to a uniform protocol and procedure for conducting the survey activities and reporting on their accomplishments.

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- ⁱ 2005 Data of Known *Sirex* Distribution, Appendix 2, Map 1
 - ⁱⁱ Preliminary SAP 2006 Survey Recommendation, Appendix 2, Map 2
 - ⁱⁱⁱ Appendix 1, Standardized Survey Protocol
 - ^{iv} Host Data Overlay Map for 2006, Appendix 2, Map 3
 - ^v 2006 Revised *Sirex* Survey, Appendix 2, Map 4
 - ^{vi} DEC Offices for *Sirex* Trap Distribution, Appendix 2, Map 5
 - ^{vii} 2006 *Sirex* Survey, Appendix 2, Map 6
 - ^{viii} Survey Results, Appendix 2, Map 7
 - ^{ix} Buffer of Positive *Sirex* Detection, Appendix 2, Map 8

APPENDIX 1

New York State 2006 Sirex Survey



Introduction

The 2006 Sirex Survey will consist of a broad multi-state effort with emphasis placed upon delimiting activities in the states of New York, Pennsylvania and Vermont. The plan of work for New York State is ambitious, calling for the placement of 1,436 traps (Lindgren/Intercept) across the state at a density of 1 trap per 25 or 36 square mile grid.

A seasonal work force will be hired to provide most of the coverage identified, however, we are seeking your cooperation and assistance in achieving a quick start on the placement and monitoring of traps. State and Federal personnel are being directed to cover from 9 to 20 grids in an area near their assigned work locations or official stations. The attached map provides the locations of Federal Officers, State Horticultural Inspectors and State Foresters with the projected coverage anticipated by each group.

It is strongly recommended that you work collaboratively with your counterparts in identifying the grids each of you are able to cover to avoid duplication and overlap. It may be necessary to provide coverage for cooperators during times of peak activity or leave. It is expected that such cooperation and assistance will be extended as needed. A list of cooperators and contact numbers is provided to facilitate cooperation and assistance among participants.

Objective

Delimiting of *Sirex noctilio* Fabricius infestation in New York and adjacent states.

Survey Coverage

150 mile perimeter from known areas of infestation in the US and Canada. A proposed plan of survey has been designated on the attached map. Each grid represents a trap site or location. There are 1,436 grids within the 150 mile perimeter and approximately 42 grids outside of the designated survey area.

Trapping Period

In New York State, flight activity was observed from August through October with trap catches reported from August to mid-October. Because the *Sirex noctilio* flight period may vary from one region to another, traps should be deployed as soon as possible (May/June) and removed at the end of September or October.

Trap Type

Until trap efficacy studies are conducted, it is difficult to recommend one trap type over another. Several trap types have been deployed in New York for the *S. noctilio* detection/delimitation effort including cross-vane, IPM Tech intercept panel, log traps, and Lindgren funnel traps. *Sirex noctilio* was captured with all these trap types. Because of their widespread availability and use for Exotic Bark beetles, Lindgren funnel traps have comprised the majority of the trapping effort to date. The 2006 survey will employ both Lindgren and IPM Tech Intercept panel traps. Traps should be fitted with the “wet option” for collecting insects. Preservative used in the traps should be low toxicity anti-freeze (i.e., propylene glycol).

Recommendation: 12-unit Lindgren funnel traps (figure 1), or IPM Tech intercept panel trap (Figure 2).

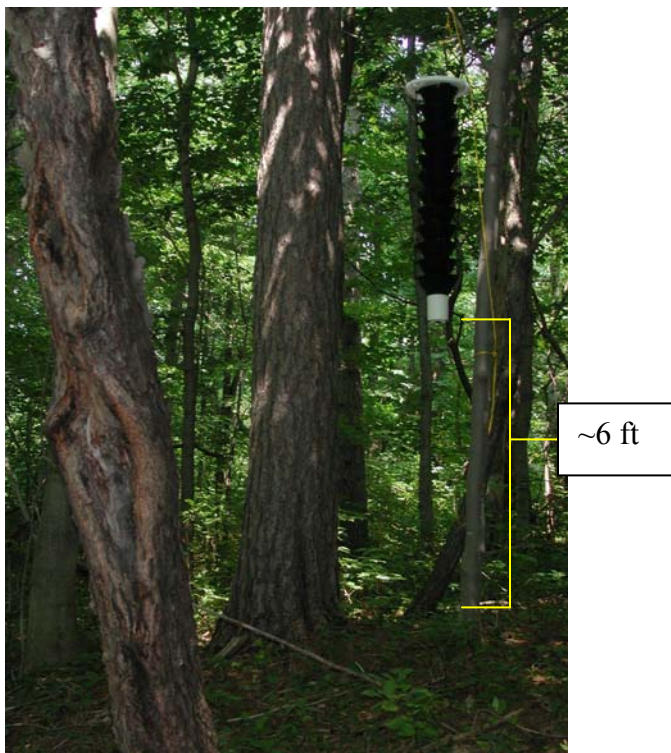


Figure 1. A 12-unit Lindgren funnel trap deployed for *Sirex noctilio* detection.



Figure 2. IPM Tech intercept panel trap

Trap Lure

Research is currently being conducted on an optimal lure for *S. noctilio*. Preliminary electroantennanogram work demonstrated that *S. noctilio* responded positively to alpha-pinene and beta-pinene. Until further research is conducted, a lure consisting of (75%+enatomer)-alpha-pinene (70%) and beta-pinene (30%) is suggested. Lures are available from the USDA-APHIS-PPQ office in Avoca (Steuben County). Lures should be changed once a month.

Trap placement

Stand selection: Priority should be placed on locating declining pine stands that contain potential host trees (i.e., hard pines). Overstocked pine plantations or smaller patches of declining pines should be the focus of trapping efforts. State or federal lands often provide the easiest access for trap placement and rapid deployment.

Secure access to the site by contacting the land owner, identifying yourself, and communicating your purpose and intentions. (This is a convenient opportunity to present them a “fact sheet”.) Explain that should a woodwasp be detected, no action will be taken (i.e. tree removal). Do not deploy a trap until permission is obtained. Record land owner’s name, address and telephone number and e-mail address, if available.

Trap placement: Traps should be hung from a host tree or placed adjacent to the nearest host tree. An attempt should be made to get the bottom of traps (i.e., collecting cups) at least 6 feet off the ground (Figure 1). A rope with a light weight tied to one end can be tossed over a low hanging branch and then tied to the trap hanger. The trap can then be hoisted to the desired height and securely fastened. While hanging traps is optimal, traps placed at or near ground level have successfully captured *S. noctilio* and native Siricidae. Depending on the effort required to hang traps and the total number of traps deployed, surveyors should use their discretion for placement.

Each trap grid will be identified with a centroid. The centroid (GPS point in the middle of the grid) can be entered into your GPS unit as a way point – your trap must be set within 2 miles of the waypoint to ensure you have trap placement within the designated grid. Centroids for grids in your designated area are attached. You must confirm the grids you are able to trap and monitor by Friday, June 2, 2006. Trap placement is to be completed as of Friday June 2, 2006.

Supplies and equipment

Lindgren funnel and IPM Tech Intercept panel traps are available from the locations below. It is requested that you obtain one or the other type trap for all your grids.

USDA-APHIS-PPQ Avoca, NY Darryl Jewett (607) 566-2212	NYSDAM Albany, NY Ethan Angell (518) 457-2087	NYSDAM NY State Fairgrounds Syracuse, NY Mike Ryan (315) 487-7711 ex 1411	NYSDEC State Tree Nursery Saratoga, NY David Lee (518) 581-1439
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You will need the following supplies to properly deploy and service your traps. If these are not available, contact your supervisor for authorization to purchase them locally.

Lure (Alpha/Beta mix 70/30) Available from Avoca, NY.

Rope

Antifreeze

Throwing bag

Sample bags

Mailers

Trap Label

Paint filter

Alcohol

Collections and Taxonomic Support

Trap collections should be made once every two weeks. After two weeks in preservative, insects begin to break down and are more difficult to sort/identify. Also, large numbers of carrion beetles are often attracted to traps that have been left out for extended periods of time.

If time permits, contents of a cup will be examined and suspects will be identified. Otherwise, obvious debris and non-hymenopteran insects will be removed, and remaining material that comprises a sample will be processed. During each visit, antifreeze will be strained from a cup through a paint filter, the sample will be deposited upon and wrapped in filter paper (wetted with alcohol), and sealed in a plastic bag. Then, the bag with the sample will be sealed in another plastic bag with a completed PPQ Form 391. The bag containing the sample will be labeled using permanent ink with the sample number, date and name of surveyor. Samples will be shipped via Fed Ex 2-day or US Postal Service 2-day Express to Carolyn Klass (Senior Extension Associate, 4140 Comstock Hall, Insect Diagnostic Laboratory, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY 14853, 607.255.3144, ck20@cornell.edu) for prescreening and examination (field personnel will retain receipts in case samples are lost and need to be tracked).

Data management for new sites and trap deployment

ISIS will be the standard program for data collection; required training will be provided to all surveyors. Those unable to be equipped with IPAQs, other PDAs, or software will submit paper records. Paper trail needs to be identified as to how this information will be processed. In some cases, data collection can be made with paper forms and entered into ISIS via an office computer, PC tablet, or other device with internet access.

SIREX – N.Y. Delimiting Survey Data Sheet

Surveyor: _____

County: _____

Service Date: _____

Time: _____

Trap Number: _____

Grid Number: _____

Crop Situation:

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forest | <input type="checkbox"/> State Forest Park |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forest Broad Leaved | <input type="checkbox"/> U.S. National Forest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Forest Conifer (soft wood) | <input type="checkbox"/> Urban Forest |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Christmas Tree Plantation | <input type="checkbox"/> Nursery |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Reformation Program | <input type="checkbox"/> Sawmill |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Military Site | |

Crop Lifestage:

- | | |
|--|------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seedling | <input type="checkbox"/> Sapling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Mature | <input type="checkbox"/> Pole Size |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Senescent Dying | |

EPA Site

- | | |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Austrian Pine | <input type="checkbox"/> Red Pine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pitch Pine | <input type="checkbox"/> Scotch Pine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Jack Pine | <input type="checkbox"/> Pine Unknown |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eastern White Pine | |

Landowners:

Name: _____ City: _____ State: _____

ZIP: _____ Latitude: _____ Longitude: _____

Sample:

- No sample collected/no suspect
- Sample collected/no suspect
- Sample collected/suspect

Service Action:

- | | | |
|---------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Changed Lure | <input type="checkbox"/> Install | Remarks: _____
_____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Remove | <input type="checkbox"/> Monitor | |

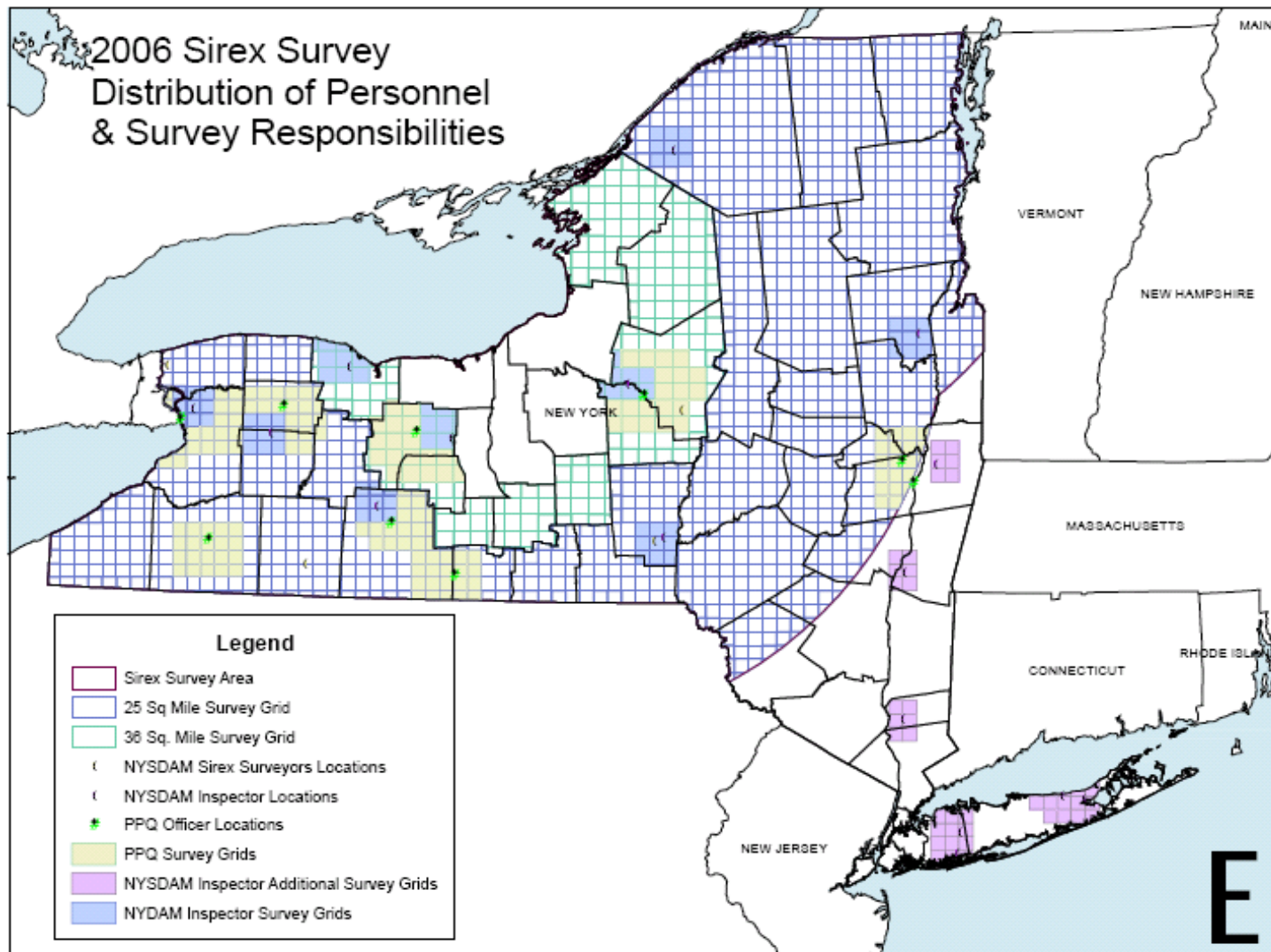
Survey Method:

- Lindgren Funnel Trap
- Intercept Panel Trap

Lure Type:

- Alpha/Beta Pinene
- Other

Sample Number: _____ (if sent to Diagnostic lab)



CONTACTS

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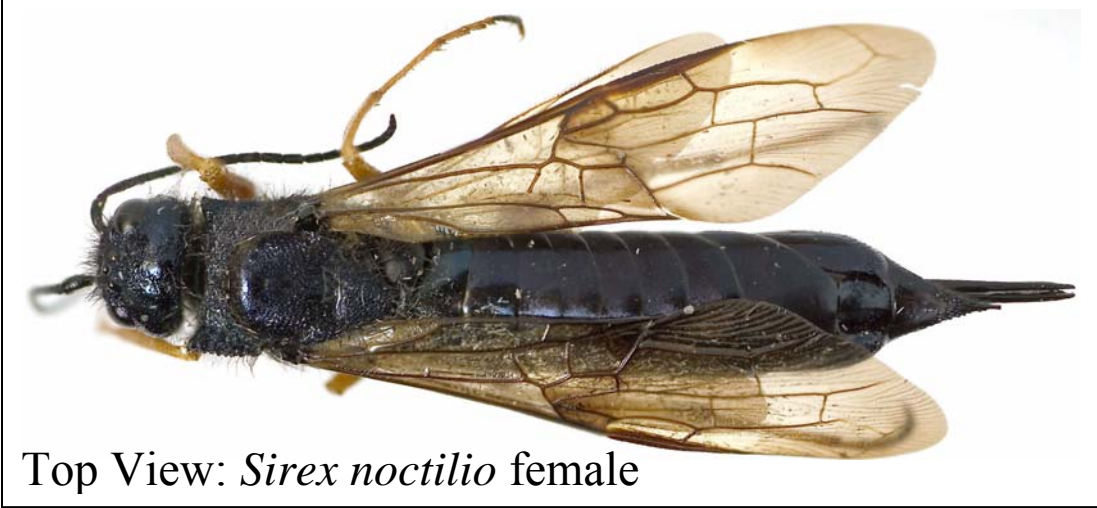
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Top View: *Sirex noctilio* female



Side View: *Sirex noctilio* female