

Green chafer - *Anomala solida* Erichson

It is very similar-looking to the vine chafer (*Anomala vitis*), but smaller (12-15 mm), usually metallic green in colour. Their shape is also similar, and in both species the femur of the 3rd legs is very thick. Their antennae are the "lamellicorn" antennae characteristic to the family. The furrows on the elytrae of *A. solida* are deeper and cruder. All its surface has a cruder, less silky appearance.

Its host plants include grapes, walnuts, plums, cherries, sour cherries, apples, and also willow, poplars, linden. The beetles feed on the leaves and in case of heavy damage only the veins can remain. The beetles feed in aggregations, sometimes several *Anomala* species cause damage at the same time. The larvae which develop inside the soil for several years first feed on humus, then on the roots of plants.

The pheromone trap should be suspended from branches of trees or bushes, or, in case of a vegetable culture, be placed on the ground. In Hungary the usual beginning of trapping is in the end of May.



The damage of the beetle, which should be averted



The beetle, which is captured in the trap

Selectivity of the CSALOMON® pheromone trap (based on field tests in Hungary): the bait doesn't attract any other species, consequently it **DOES NOT** attract the related *A. vitis* or *A. dubia*. For these latter two, economically more important species specifically optimized pheromone baits and traps are available in the CSALOMON® trap family (pls consult our :List of Products). However, it is possible to apply both baits (for *A. solida* and for *A. vitis / dubia*) together in the same trap, because they do not interfere with each other. Thus we shall have a trap catching all three important *Anomala* species.

Longevity of the CSALOMON® trap in field conditions: depending on the warmth of the weather at least **2-3 weeks**. After this period we suggest to replace the bait for most effective detection and monitoring. The suggested trap type is the VARb3 modified funnel trap.

Anomala solida prefers sandy areas. It is an Eastern Mediterranean species, it is most abundant in Romania, Serbia, Bulgaria and neighbouring countries. Its last large outbreak was recorded in Hungary in 2010.

The traps capture the male beetles, and can be used for sensitive detection of the occurrence of the pest or for monitoring the flight pattern throughout the season. When using a trap grid, the sites of aggregation can easily be located and eliminated. The VARb3 funnel traps can also be used for mass trapping: in the related *A. vitis* / *A. dubia*, when setting up a double line of traps around the perimeter of a peach orchard (trap distance of 10 - 15 m), damages of fruit injuries could be kept at an acceptably low level^[1]. The application of traps for mass trapping is more convenient than the traditional method of control generally suggested against scarabs consisting of knocking down the beetles from the vegetation at dawn.^[2] In any case this latter method is not much suitable for vine chafers since in contrast to the May beetles (*Melolontha* spp.), the *Anomala*, when knocked down, usually take wing very easily or hide in the soil.

When mass trapping the chafers, as a side benefit, the large volume of captured beetles in the traps can be fed to chicken or other poultry in organic farms.

[1] Voigt E. és Tóth M. 2000. *Agrofórum*, 11:58-59, 2000, [2] Jermy T, Balázs K. (szerk.) *A növényvédelmi állattan kézikönyve*. Akadémiai Kiadó, Budapest, 1990.



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