



# Invasive Ambrosia Beetle Conference

## *The Situation in California*

August 12 - 14, 2012

*Meeting sponsored by:*  
The Hofshi Foundation  
University of California, Riverside  
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The Huntington Botanical Gardens  
The Los Angeles Arboretum

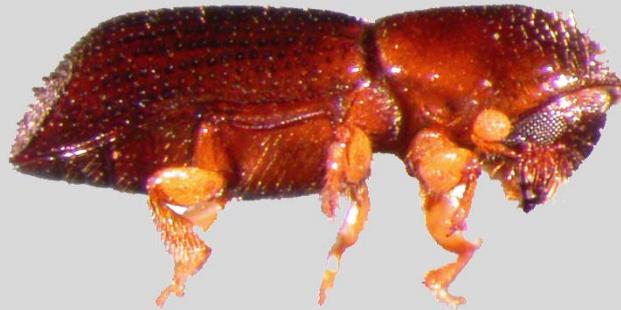


# Invasive Ambrosia Beetle Conference

## *The Situation in California*

August 12 - 14, 2012

*Session 3*  
Biology of the Beetles

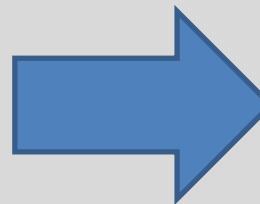
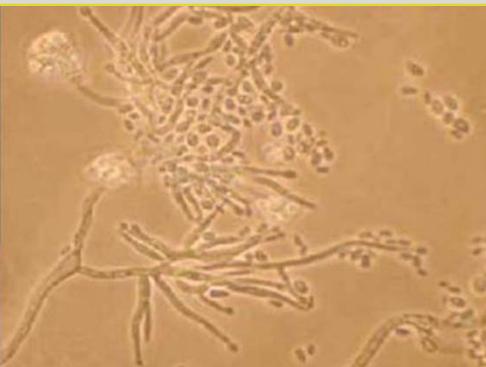


**Ambrosia beetles that breed in laurel wilt-affected trees can carry *Raffaelea lauricola* and transmit it to healthy avocado and redbay trees**

Carrillo D, Duncan R, Ploetz J, Campbell A , **Ploetz R**, Peña JE



*Xyleborus glabratus* Eichhoff  
(Coleoptera: Curculionidae: Scolytinae)



*Raffaelea lauricola* T.C. Harr.

## AMBROSIA BEETLES (COLEOPTERA: CURCULIONIDAE: SCOLYTINAE) THAT BREED IN AVOCADO WOOD IN FLORIDA

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17  
**Scolytinae**  
**spp.**

	1*	2*	3*	4*	5	6	7	8	9	10	11*
<b>Beetle species</b>	n = 38	n = 3663	n = 117	n = 363	n = 2903	n = 944	n = 201	n = 211	n = 2940	n = 92	n = 6730
<i>Euwallacea fornicatus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.5	-	-	-	0.06
<i>Xyleborus glabratus</i>	2.6	-	8.4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Xyleborus affinis</i>	-	8.4	10.1	16.3	71.5	20.6	-	1.9	70.6	-	0.5
<i>Xyleborus volvulus</i>	-	2.3	3.3	12.1	11.9	50.2	13.4	71.6	11.7	44.6	2.8
<i>Xyleborus ferrugineus</i>	5.3	0.5	-	54.6	5.1	0.6	1.5	1.4	5.0	-	-
<i>Xyleborinus gracilis</i>	5.3	-	-	-	4.1	2.0	-	-	4.0	-	-
<i>Xyleborinus saxeseni</i>	76.3	28.3	79.8	12.8	6.1	18.5	44.8	11.8	6.0	2.2	84
<i>Xylosandrus crassiusculus</i>	10.5	35.9	6.8	-	-	6.7	26.4	5.2	-	33.7	12.02
<i>Ambrosiodmus devexulus</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	0.5	-	-
<i>Ambrosiodmus lecontei</i>	-	-	-	-	-	0.3	0.5	-	-	2.2	-



## *Euwallacea fornicatus*

1. First USA record royal poinciana *Delonix regia* (2002)
2. Avocado (one wilted tree) (2009)
3. Two avocado groves (wilted trees, wide spread) (2012)



■ *X. glabratus* low populations or not recovered from most avocados affected by LW.

■ 2011 – Large infestation (swampbays) close to avocado commercial areas

■ 2012 - 1<sup>st</sup> Avocado tree diagnosed with LW in a commercial avocado grove



?

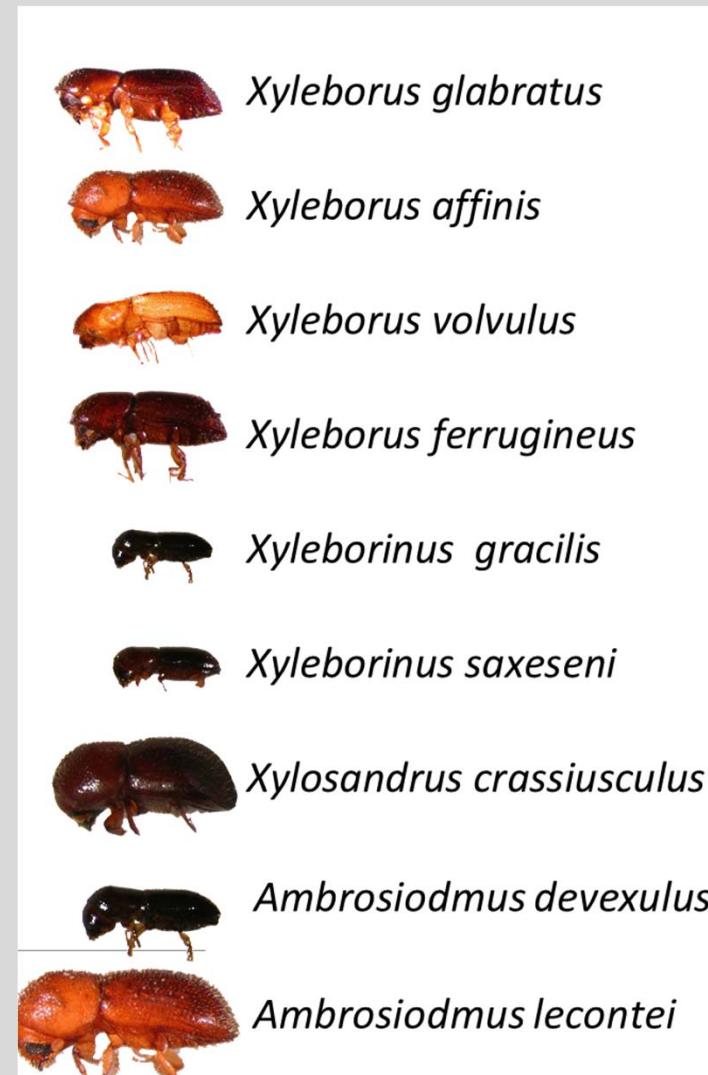


# Harrington et al. 2008

## *X. saxeseni + R. lauricola*

Can these beetles carry *R. lauricola* by and transmit it to healthy avocado and redbay plants?

9 **Xyleborini**  
spp.



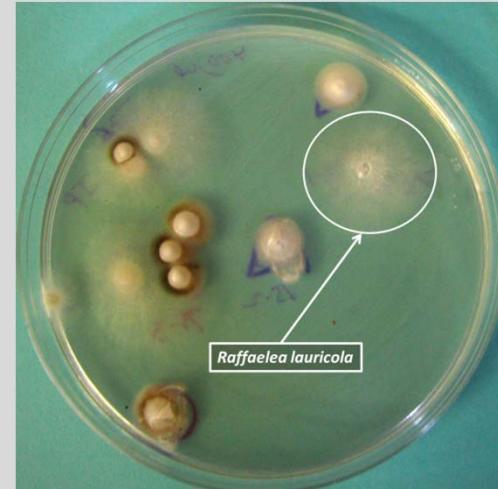
# Materials and Methods



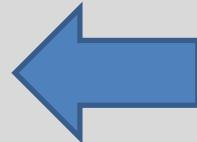
## Part 1. Recovery of *R. lauricola* from beetles



Surface  
sterilization



Microsatellites  
(CHK, IFW)  
+  
LSU



*R. lauricola* CFU

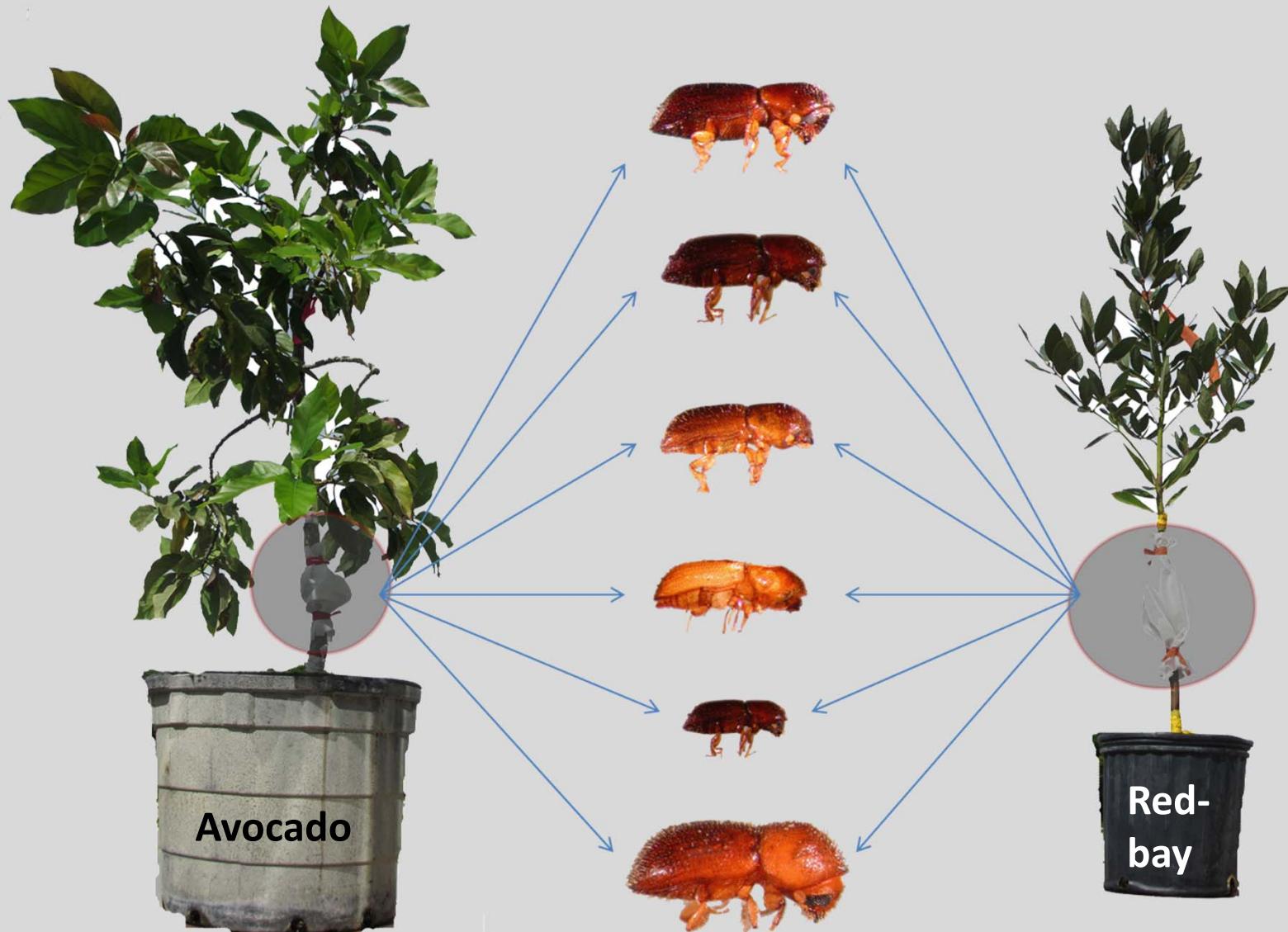


# Recovery of *R. lauricola*

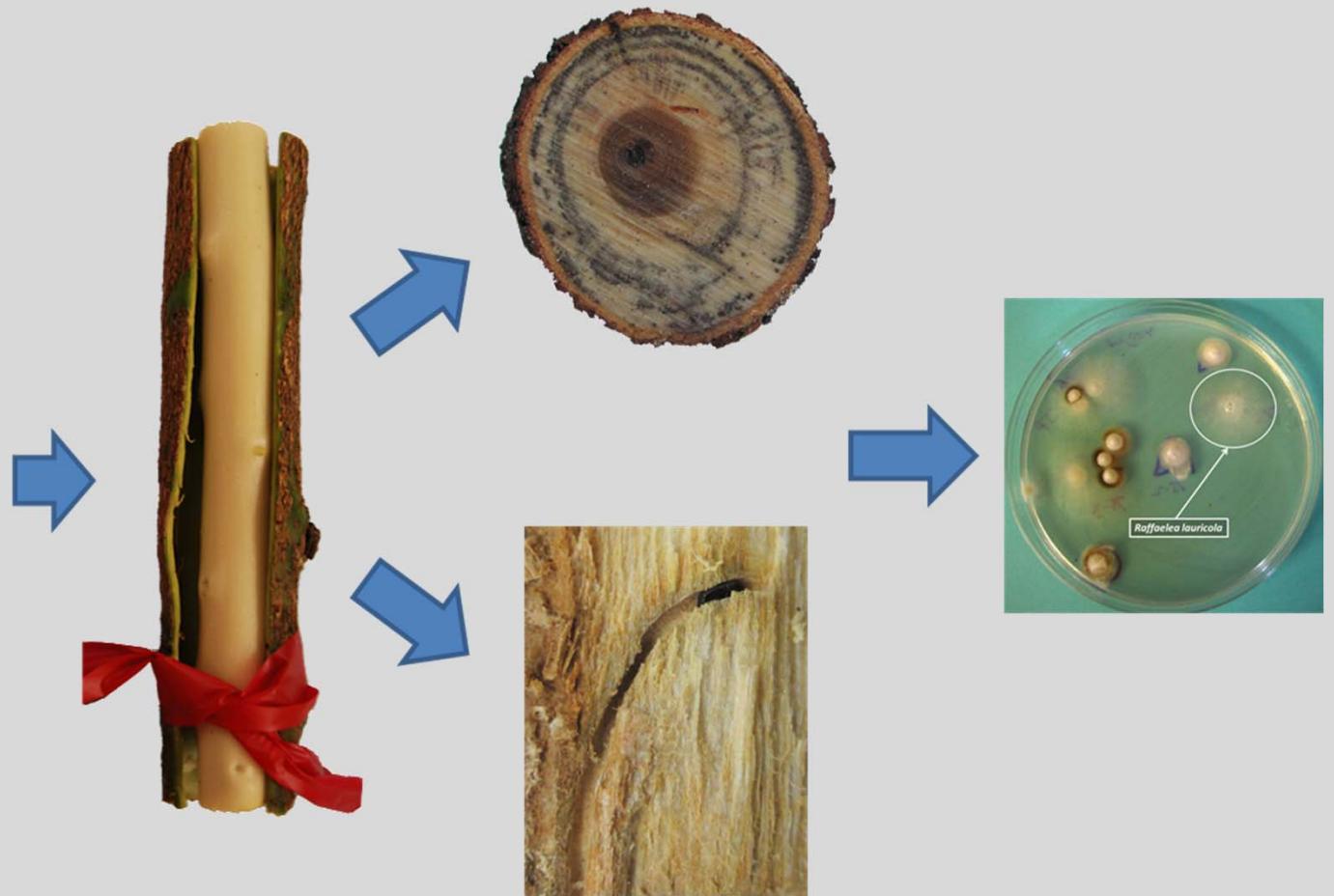
species	n=			probability of		CFUs Mean $\pm$ SEM	CFU Range
		No. beetles carrying <i>R. lauricola</i>	a beetle carrying <i>R. lauricola</i>	CFUs			
<i>Xyleborus glabratu</i> s	50	43	0.86 a	2783.3 $\pm$ 281.9 a		0 - 7800	
<i>Xyleborus affinis</i>	41	5	0.12 c		1 $\pm$ 0.6 c	0 - 20	
<i>Xyleborus volvulus</i>	39	20	0.51 b	28.4 $\pm$ 10.6 b		0 - 100	
<i>Xyleborus ferrugineu</i> s	118	70	0.59 b		33 $\pm$ 7.4 b	0 - 118	
<i>Xyleborinus gracilis</i>	52	26	0.50 b	100.6 $\pm$ 34 b		0 - 1240	
<i>Xyleborinus saxeseni</i>	68	2	0.03 c		1.5 $\pm$ 1 c	0 - 60	
<i>Xylosandrus crassiusculus</i>	39	1	0.03 c		2.6 $\pm$ 2.6 c	0 - 100	
<i>Ambrosiodmus devexulus</i>	25	0	-		-	-	
<i>Ambrosiodmus lecontei</i>	41	0	-		-	-	



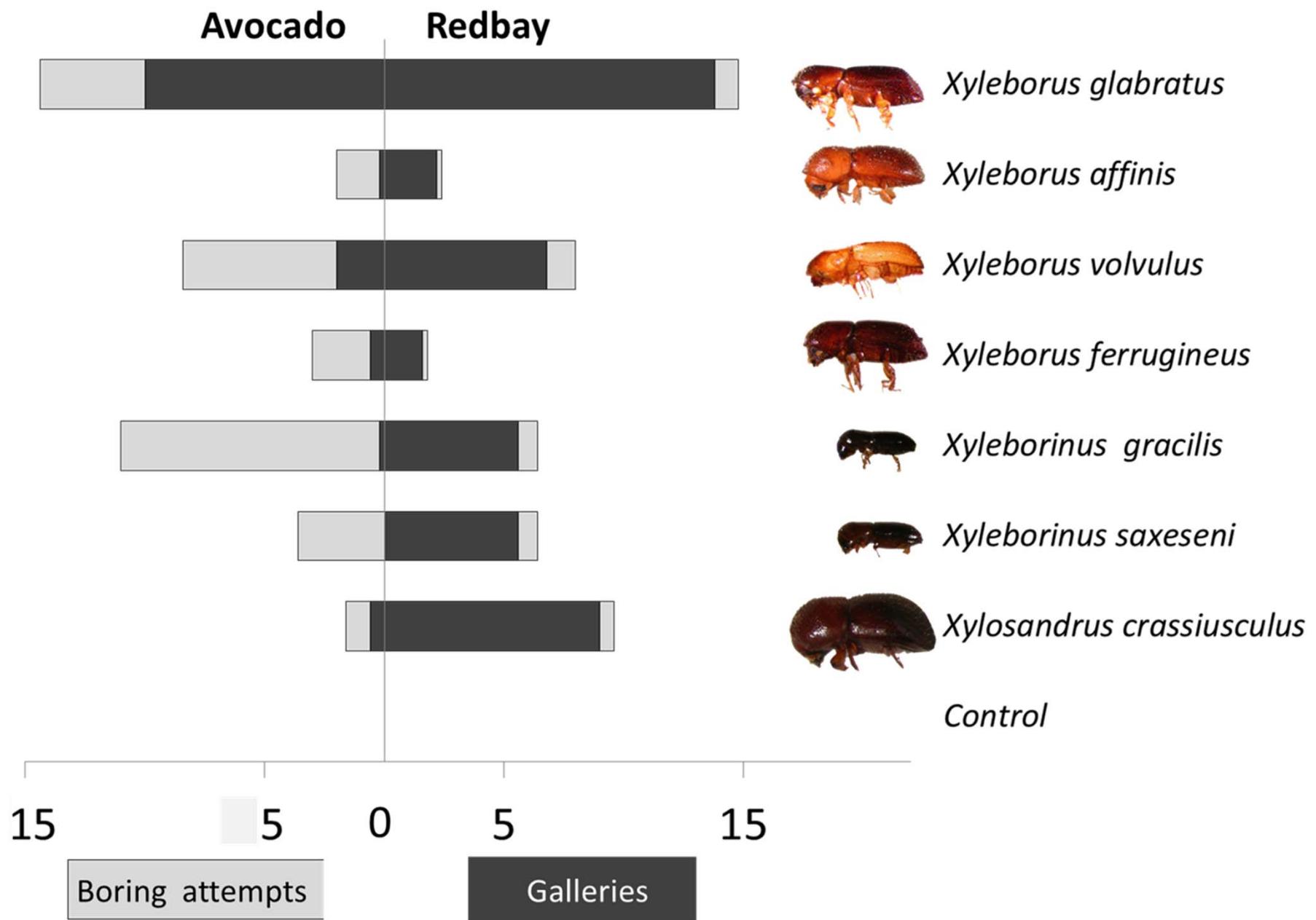
## Part 2. Transmission of *R. lauricola* to healthy trees



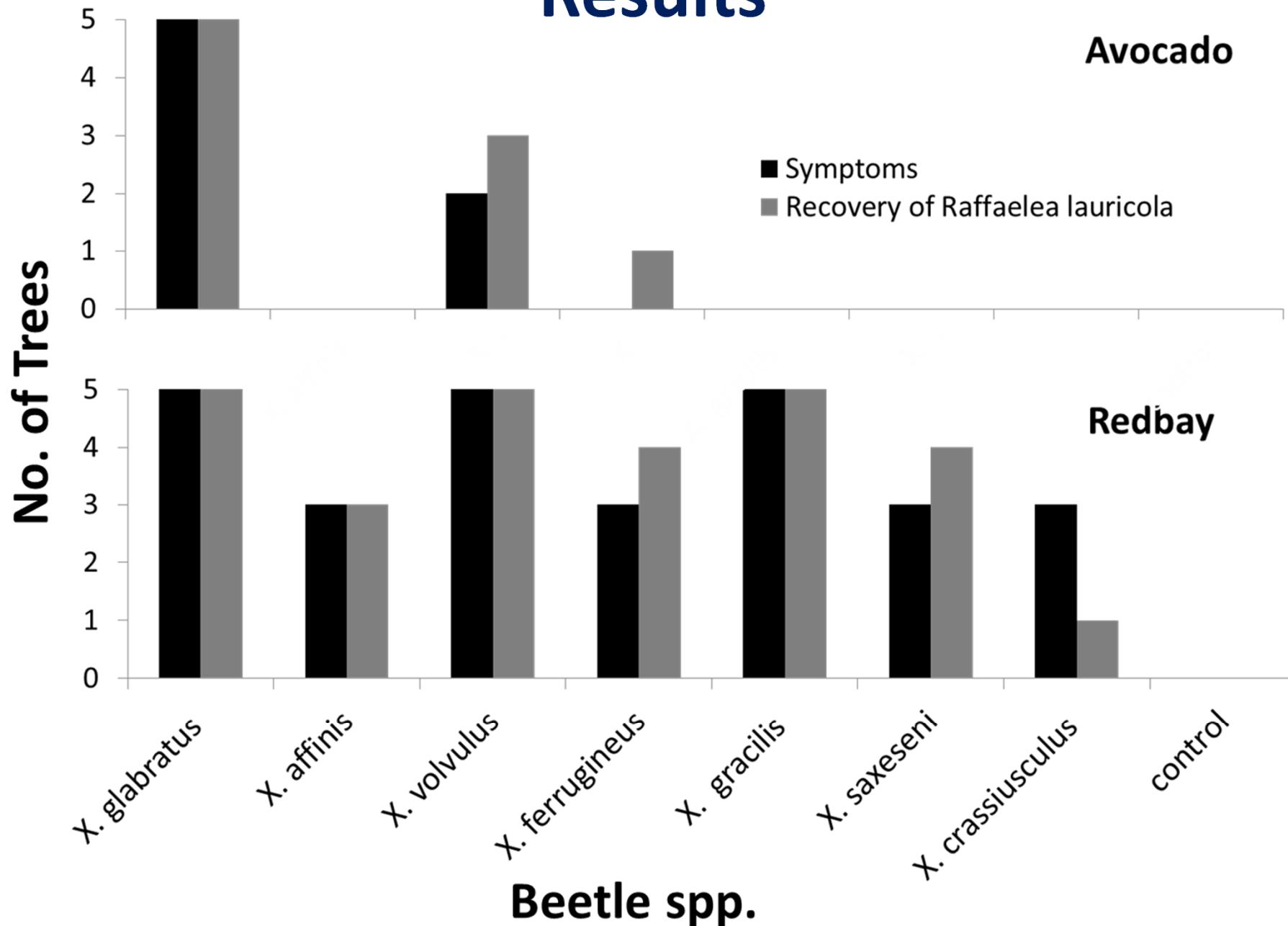
# Plant dissection



# Results

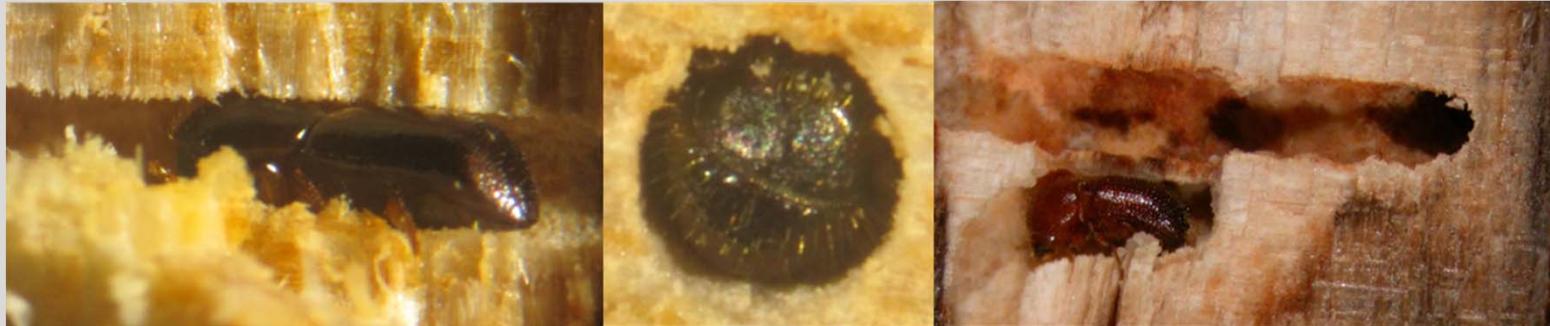


# Results



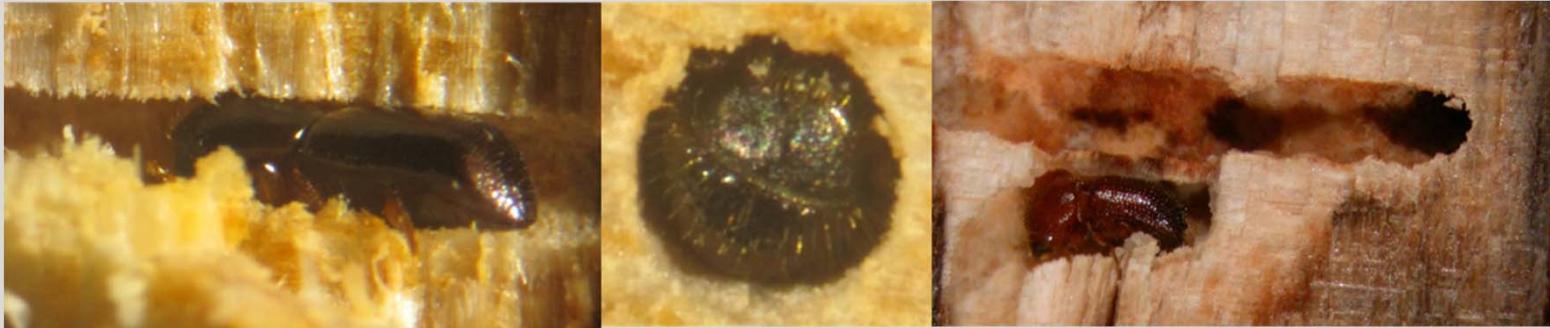
# Conclusions

- 🐞 New beetle-fungus association (multiple lateral transfer of *R. lauricola*)
- 🐞 At least six Xyleborini spp. other than RAB can carry and transmit *R. lauricola* to healthy trees and cause LW (under controlled conditions, more in redbay than in avocado).



# Questions

- 蠼螋 New beetle-fungus associations: mutualistic, antagonistic?
- 蠼螋 Will “other” AB that carry *R. lauricola* attack healthy plants?
- 蠼螋 Would they be attracted to stressed plants?
- 蠼螋 Pruning?
- 蠼螋 Where is *X. glabratus*?





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