



How reachable is Europe for the Japanese beetle ?

Tracking planes, trains and trucks to inform surveillance strategies

Leyli Borner – INRAE, France Davide Martinetti – INRAE, France Sylvain Poggi – INRAE, France





Active dispersal



Risk-factor analysis: connectivity

Risk-based surveillance







Hitchhiker pest - human-facilitated dispersal

How is the infested area connected to the rest of Europe by transport networks?

- 1. Select transport mode relevant to the Japanese beetle's dispersal: planes, trains and trucks
- 2. Compile data on directional flows in EU, during adult emergence (summer)
- 3. Assess transport network connectivity from the infested area
- 4. Rank sites from most reachable to least reachable



Infested area = cities in (infested + buffer) zone in 2022









Risk-factor analysis: connectivity

Risk-based surveillance





Risk-factor analysis: connectivity

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Risk-factor analysis: connectivity

Risk-based surveillance





Combining planes, trains & trucks using Pareto front

<u>Multi-objective optimization</u> method, the **Pareto front** (also called **Pareto frontier** or **Pareto curve**) is the set of all Pareto-efficient situations





Vilfredo Pareto (1848–1923), Italian <u>civil</u> <u>engineer</u> and economist

1st Pareto front

Frankfurt am Main,

Koln, Kreisfreie Stadt

Kreisfreie Stadt

Val-de-Marne

Budapest Genova Roma

San Marino

Geneve

Zurich

Risk-factor analysis: connectivity

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2nd Pareto front

Hlavni mesto Praha	CZ
Berlin	DE
Dusseldorf, Kreisfreie	
Stadt	DE
Hamburg	DE
Nurnberg, Kreisfreie	
Stadt	DE
Rhone	FR
Val-d'Oise	FR
Catania	IT
Gorizia	IT
Napoli	IT
Pescara	IT
Savona	IT
Bucuresti	RO





Composite index of connectivity - Pareto front:



Risk-factor analysis: connectivity



Risk-factor analysis: connectivity

Pareto group

8 - 15 16 - 31 32 - 63 64 - 127 128 - 1225



Risk-factor analysis: connectivity

Risk-based surveillance



- What could this framework be used for?
- Tool to model hitchhiker pests' spread
- Design surveillance at continental level
- Improve risk assessment

Publication and dataset



Risk-factor analysis: connectivity

Risk-based surveillance





Thank you all for your attention



Davide Martinetti Researcher, INRAE, UR BioSP, Avignon



Sylvain Poggi Researcher, INRAE, UR IGEPP, Rennes







Popillia japonica - Coleoptera

Native to Japan



• First detected in continental Europe in Italy in 2014

A biological invasion in progress



Risk-based surveillance

Combining suitability, dispersal, and pest impact to build a surveillance strategy



For human-transported pests and pathogens with a European range, the framework presented here allows for the identification of entry points within Europe.

Improvements:

- More precise trade data, for example using movements of goods specifically identified as carrying pests (soil, plants, etc.) (Fenn-Moltu et al. 2023),
- entry points identified may be refined by cross-referencing with the presence of sensitive host plants or favourable ecological conditions.
- Local connectivity can also be used to refine field efforts: distribution of airports, train stations, truck stops, etc (Plötz and Speth 2021).

Biology and behavior of the Japanese beetle



Piedmont region, Italy - July 2021 © INRAE, Leyli Borner

🗼 adult stage 🛭 🖅 larval stages

<u>Life cycle</u>

- Eife cycle: 1-year (sometimes 2-years)
 - 🗼 Emergence: between May and July 🛛
 - Life span: ~ 4-6 weeks
- Egg-laying in grasslands (late summer): 40-60 eggs/female
- Three larval stages, buried >15cm deep: December

Damages in larval and adult stages

- ② Grass roots (grass, lawns, pastures)
- Fruits, flowers and foliage of host plants (> 400 plant species)



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