



**Feeding Damage to Five Citrus Rootstocks by Larvae of *Diaprepes abbreviatus*
(Coleoptera: Curculionidae)**

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FEEDING DAMAGE TO FIVE CITRUS ROOTSTOCKS BY LARVAE OF *DIAPREPES ABBREVIATUS* (COLEOPTERA: CURCULIONIDAE)¹—(Note.) The 5 major varieties of citrus rootstocks grown in Florida, rough lemon, sour orange, 'Carizzo' citrange, 'Milam' rough lemon, and 'Cleopatra' mandarin were tested for resistance to damage by *Diaprepes abbreviatus* (L.). In August 1971, 10 trees of each variety, 1.9-2.5 cm diam calipered 8 cm above soil level, and ca. 60.9-76.2 cm tall, were placed in individual 208-liter steel drums with both ends removed and planted in a double Latin square design. The drums were buried in the soil with ca. 3.8 cm extending above ground level.

In September 1971 the 50 trees were each infested with 50 *D. abbreviatus* larval 1st instars from the Apopka laboratory by dropping the larvae into a hole ca. 4-5 cm deep in the soil adjacent to the tree trunk and filling the hole up with soil. In April 1972, 5 trees of each rootstock were dug up and the soil in each drum was washed through a series of screens to recover immature weevils. Also, larval feeding injury to the roots of each tree was numerically rated. Screens were fitted to the tops of the remaining drums to prevent the escape of emerging adults, and each drum was checked daily for adult emergence. In November 1972, the remaining trees were dug and evaluated as before.

No differences in resistance were observed. At the 7-month sampling, 14 larvae and 3 pupae were recovered. At 14 months, 1 larva was recovered. The larvae were recovered at depths ranging from 30-79 cm; the pupae were at depths of 2.5-20 cm. No adults emerged. Severe damage was done to the root systems of the trees within 6 months, September to April. Evidently larval activity continues during winter months. P. A. Norman, A. G. Selhime, and R. A. Sutton² U. S. Horticultural Research Laboratory, 2120 Camden Road, Orlando, Fla. 32803.

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