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Sunflower maggot (*Strauzia longipennis*) – a new invasive species in Germany and Europe

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The sunflower maggot *Strauzia longipennis* (Wiedemann, 1830) is endemic in North America. First observations of the fruit fly in Europe were obtained in Berlin and dates back to 2010. Considering the adaptation of the species to climatic conditions in Central Europe and the status as quarantine pest an extensive survey regarding the distribution of the fruit fly was carried out in Berlin and in the surrounding Federal Land Brandenburg in 2011 with the exception of district Prignitz of the Federal Land because there was no field cultivation of sunflowers in 2011.

The infestation with *Strauzia longipennis* was investigated on sunflower (*Helianthus annuus* L.) as well as Jerusalem artichoke (*Helianthus tuberosus* L.). Therefore, plants were examined growing on fields i. e. sunflower fields and other crops (plants growing through or growing on the edges) as well as plants from a nursery, from experimental fields, backyards, allotments and roadsides.

In Brandenburg, on 27 locations mostly cultivated with *Helianthus annuus* were plants registered to be infested with sunflower maggot. Only in district Oberspreewald-Lausitz the sunflower maggot could not be detected. In Berlin infested plants were observed at 16 locations. The results verify the territorial wide distribution of the sunflower maggot within Berlin and the Federal Land Brandenburg. We assumed an introduction in Germany quite earlier than the first detection in Berlin in 2010. Furthermore, the study demonstrates the Jerusalem artichoke *Helianthus tuberosus* as another host plant of this fruit fly species.

Key words: fruit flies, *Helianthus*, miner, sunflower, quarantine pest, Germany

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