**Acca sellowiana** (Myrtaceae): A New Alternative Host for *Drosophila suzukii* (Diptera: Drosophilidae) in Brazil

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Feijoa (Acca sellowiana [Berg] Burret; Myrtaceae) is an evergreen shrub or short tree, 2 to 6 m in height (Weston 2010), and native to the highlands of southern Brazil and northeast Uruguay (Barni et al. 2004). Its fruit is similar in appearance, size, and texture to the common guava (Psidium guajava L.; Myrtaceae), but with the flesh having a distinctive sweet-tangy taste and a very aromatic flavor, and with a non-edible green skin (Amarante & Santos 2011). In addition, it is a good source of vitamins, minerals, and secondary metabolites with antibacterial, antioxidant, antiallergic, and immunological properties (Weston 2010).

Feijoa has been cultivated commercially in Colombia, the USA, the former Soviet Republics of the Caucasus region, and especially in New Zealand (Barni et al. 2004). In New Zealand, about 500 t of feijoa fruits are produced annually, and domestic sales generate around 1.7 million dollars (Plant and Food Research Institute of New Zealand Ltd. 2013). Despite the commercial potential of its fruit, feijoa is almost unknown in Brazil (Ducroquet et al. 2000), and its production faces other native or cultivated fruit crops with thick-skinned fruits (Asplen et al. 2015).

Our knowledge on preferred or alternative hosts of D. suzukii has been increasing from surveys done outside growing areas (Lee et al. 2015; Poyet et al. 2015). Reporting feijoa as an alternative host for D. suzukii is important because it has thick-skinned fruits, thus showing the possibility of this pest to adapt to different hosts available in the colonization areas. In addition, A. sellowiana is a fruit crop of economic importance in many countries, mainly in Asia, North and South America, and Oceania, and D. suzukii may become a pest of feijoa in these regions because it is native to Asia and is widely distributed in North America and Europe (Asplen et al. 2015).

In conclusion, we also obtained adult specimens of A. sellowiana in feijoa fruit. This is the first record of D. suzukii in feijoa. In addition, these results demonstrate the feasibility of feijoa as an alternative host for D. suzukii.
We report, for the first time, the occurrence and development of *Drosophila suzukii* Matsumura (Diptera: Drosophilidae) in fruits of *Acca sellowiana* (Berg) Burret (Myrtaceae). Although fruits of *A. sellowiana* present hard and thick skin, damage caused by another insect pest, *Conotrachelus psidii* Marshall (Coleoptera: Curculionidae), may have enabled fruit infestation by *D. suzukii*.

Key Words: feijoa; spotted wing drosophila; invasive pest; first report

### References Cited


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