

ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE

[*Anoplophora glabripennis* (Motschulsky)]



Fig. 1

UGA 2159062

Problem: Native to China,^{1,3,6} Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) (Fig. 1) infests and kills native hardwood trees including all species of maple, birch, poplar, willow, elm, ash, hackberry, sycamore and others.^{1,3,6} It has the potential to cause more destruction than Dutch elm disease, chestnut blight and the gypsy moth combined.¹ Damage is caused by larvae that feed in the outer sapwood and deep into the tree's heartwood, forming tunnels or galleries in the trunk and branches.^{3,6} This damage weakens the integrity of the tree and will eventually kill it if the infestation is severe enough.^{1,3}

Identification: Adults are roughly 20 to 35 mm long (1 to 1 ½ in),^{1,2,3} shiny black with long antennae, and have small white markings on the body and antennae.^{2,3}

Signs and Symptoms: Oviposition niches/egg sites are oval or round wounds in the bark, ~13 mm in diameter (½ in), that are created when females chew through the bark and inject a single egg into the tree (Fig. 2).^{1,2,3} Adult beetles emerge one year later through the bark creating round exit holes that are ~6-12 mm in diameter (⅜ to ½ in)^{3,6} (Fig.



Fig. 2

UGA 1393011



Fig. 3

UGA 1393002

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Fig. 4

UGA 3225081



Fig. 5

UGA 5016094

3). Exit holes appear clean and round like they have been drilled and can be found anywhere on the tree including branches, trunk and exposed roots.^{1,3} Adult emergence occurs from May through October.^{1,6} In addition, large piles of coarse sawdust around the base of trees or where branches meet the main stem (Fig. 4),^{1,3,6} crown dieback, epicormic branching, and holes on leaf veins where feeding has occurred (Fig. 5) may be visible.^{1,3}

Similar species: The whitespotted pine sawyer [*Monochamus scutellatus* (Say)] (Fig. 6) is most commonly misidentified as ALB. Males are metallic black with one white dot at the base of the wing covers.⁵ Females are brown with speckles and also have a white dot at the base of the wing covers.⁵ ALB lacks this white dot, though it has many white spots on its wing covers.^{2,5} The cottonwood borer [*Plectrodera scalator* (Fabricius)] (CB) can be distinguished from ALB by the black antennae.^{2,4} ALB antennae have white bands.^{1,2,4} Also, the CB has



Fig. 6

UGA 5203071



Fig. 7

UGA 0014056

white stripes around the neck.⁴ The ALB neck is black.² Figure 7 shows a comparison between the CB on the left and the female (middle) and male (right) ALB.