

Asian longhorned beetle

Asian longhorned beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*) is a wood-boring pest that usually targets deciduous hardwood trees such as elm, willow, poplar, maple and a variety of fruit trees. They attack both healthy trees and stressed or diseased trees.

Description

An adult beetle is about 20-35mm long and 7-12mm wide. Its body is jet black in colour with white spots. The antennae are black with whitish-blue rings and can be up to two and a half times the body length.

Eggs are about 5-7mm long, off-white in colour, rectangular in shape and are laid under bark. The larvae look like grubs and can grow up to 50mm long – twice the size of the beetle.



What damage does it cause?

Adults chew slits in the bark of their host plants to lay eggs. After the eggs hatch, the developing larvae feed under the bark, forming tunnels.

Evidence of larval infestation appears as chewed wood or frass that has been ejected from the tunnels. Exit holes in timber are about finger width. Over time, the feeding larvae cause a decline in the tree's health, which will eventually kill it.

Adults damage trees by feeding on leaves and bark. They damage the fruiting shoots of fruit trees which results in a yield loss.

A serious threat

An outbreak of Asian longhorned beetle has the potential to devastate Australia's apple and pear orchards and destroy forests and native bush.

Perfectly healthy trees can be quickly overcome by the beetle's attack. The feeding larvae will eventually kill its host. It can also cause serious damage to amenity trees and timber structures in houses.



Infested trees need to be removed and destroyed to successfully eradicate this pest.

High alert for industrial areas

The Department of Agriculture and Food, Western Australia (DAFWA) is asking industrial warehouses in receipt of imported cargo to remain on high alert.

This beetle is most likely to arrive in imported timber, and wood used for pallets and other packing materials from Asia or North America.

Report suspect Asian longhorned beetle immediately

Call **1800 084 881** or go to mypestguide.agric.wa.gov.au and use the DAFWA MyPestGuide reporter app or web tool. For more information agric.wa.gov.au/asianlonghornedbeetle



Distribution

Asian longhorned beetle is indigenous to China and the Korean Peninsula, and was introduced into North America during the 1990s.

It is the subject of eradication campaigns in Canada and a number of states in the USA, as well as within the European Union.

Hosts

Poplar trees are considered the major host. A wide range of other trees are also hosts, including alder, apple, ash, birch, elm, maple, mulberry, pear, plane tree, prunus, robinia, roses and willow.

The potential effect of Asian longhorned beetle on Australian native plants is not known.

What to look for

Look for larval tunnels in the wood up to 15mm wide, and oval-shaped exit holes about 10-15mm wide.

Look also for sawdust-like frass falling from damaged timber.

Report Asian longhorned beetle

If you suspect this pest call DAFWA's Pest and Disease Information Service on 1800 084 881 or go to mypestguide.agric.wa.gov.au to download the free MyPestGuide reporter app, or make a MyPestGuide online report.

By joining the MyPestGuide reporting community you can report any suspect pests at any time. Use the app to send an image to DAFWA for identification and experts will respond directly to your phone.



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