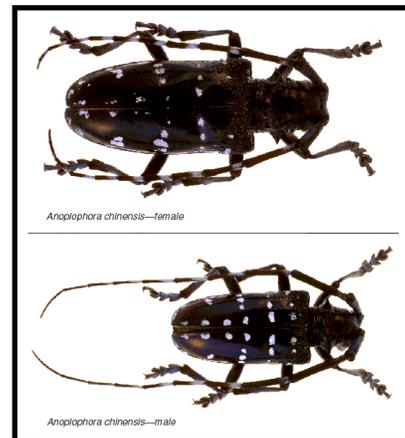


"Bug of the Month"

Recent news stories have focused attention on one of the Pacific Northwest's more serious unwelcome visitors, the citrus longhorned beetle, *Anoplophora chinensis*. In August 2001, a few adult beetles were caught at a nursery in Tukwila, WA, in a group of maple trees imported from Korea. In November 2001, a plant quarantine was established that extended ½ mile around the site where the beetles were captured. The quarantine prohibits the possession, transportation or distribution outside the quarantine area of any living citrus longhorned beetle or any plant material that may be infested. The citrus longhorned beetle is closely related to the Asian longhorned beetle that has caused thousands of trees to be destroyed in New York City and Chicago. Both beetles attack and eventually kill hardwood trees. Forests and landscapes could be severely damaged if the beetle becomes established in Washington.

WHAT DO THEY LOOK LIKE? The adult citrus longhorned beetle is a shiny black beetle measuring 1 to 1 ½ inches long. The wing covers have irregular white patches and the long antennae are banded with white and black. The larvae are grub-like, white or cream colored and grow to more than 2 inches long and a ½ inch wide.

WHAT DO THEY DO? A serious pest in Asia, the citrus longhorned beetle has no natural enemies in Washington. The beetle attacks about 40 different species of trees, including maple, poplar, willow and fruit trees, such as apple and pear. Eggs are laid during the summer when adult beetles are active. Each female lays up to 200 eggs, one at a time, in different places on trees. Two weeks later, cream-colored grubs hatch and chew their way into the interior of trees where they feed for nine months. They bore numerous tunnels in the tree, severing tissues that transport nutrients and, eventually, starve the tree to death. They pupate in the tree and emerge as adults. The roundish exit hole is usually the first sign that a tree is infested. The citrus longhorned beetle, like its cousin the Asian longhorned beetle, attacks and kills healthy trees and is capable of flight. Since 1996 more than 6,000 trees have been destroyed in New York City and Chicago as a result of the Asian longhorned beetle infestations. As many as 50 percent of New York's trees are in danger of being infested.



MANAGEMENT. Destruction of an infested tree is the best method to control the citrus longhorned beetle.

If an adult beetle is found, scoop it into a container and call the Washington State Department of Agriculture at (800) 443-6684, or send an e-mail to pestprogram@agr.wa.gov.

The Washington State Department of Agriculture will be conducting an extensive survey this winter to find evidence of egg laying, and damage on twigs and branches caused by adult feeding.

Infested trees found in the quarantine area will be removed.

MORE QUESTIONS? Please do not hesitate to give your "Bug Docs" a call at comm.: (360) 315-4450, DSN: 322-4450 or you can e-mail us at MEI@ndvecc.navy.mil.