Group 2 – Insect Pests

ASH BARK BEETLE (*Hylesinus californicus*)

Refer to:
Table 1; Group 2 (Page 60)

Monitoring Season
All season (April – October)

Control Season
All season (April – October) for non-pesticide control activity
Late season (August – October) for pesticide control activity

Rating
Insect pest; eventually fatal to host if left untreated

Hosts and Damage
- Patmore green ash, black ash, Manchurian ash
- Initially attack and kill small twigs and branches, but as the tree becomes weaker they may attack larger branches and eventually the bole of the tree causing death
- Branches girdled by larval tunnels exhibit yellow leaves by late June or early July

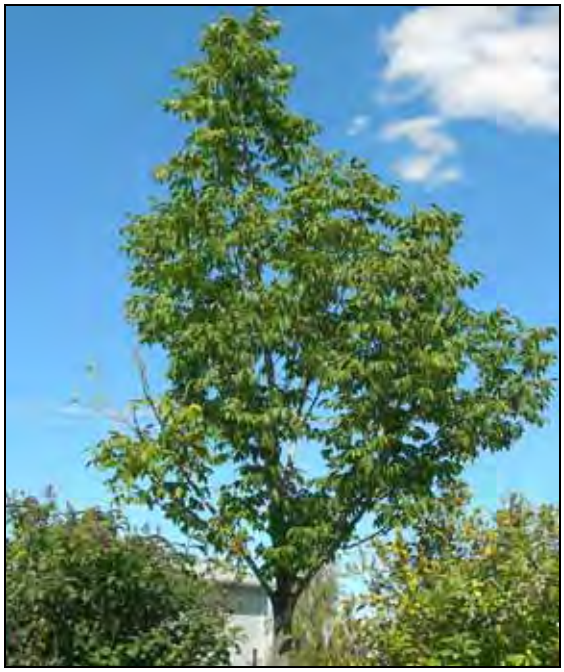
Physical Characteristics
- Larvae are C-shaped, legless and white with a brown head
- Adults are 2.0 – 3.0 mm long; grey and brown in colour

Biology
- One generation per year
- Overwinter as adults in litter at base of tree
- Adults emerge in late May or early June
- Females construct galleries with rows of ventilation holes and lay eggs
- When larvae hatch, they tunnel parallel to grain and create exit holes above girdle line toward the end of the branch

Why Manage
- Widely distributed; populations are manageable
- Public perception and complaints; control spread to private property
- To maintain native species balance and variety (biodiversity)
- To establish tolerable levels of damage
- Increased need for vegetation replacement; reduced vegetation value
- Increased plant susceptibility to disease and other pests
- Maintenance standards; may lead to increased maintenance costs if not controlled

Monitoring Procedures
- Pre-control monitoring
- Post-control monitoring
- Spot checking

Control Procedures (Focus on controlling with non-pesticide methods)
- Physical/mechanical: Pruning (larval control; preventative deadwood)
- Pesticide: Malathion (backpack sprayer)
- Biological: None used at present



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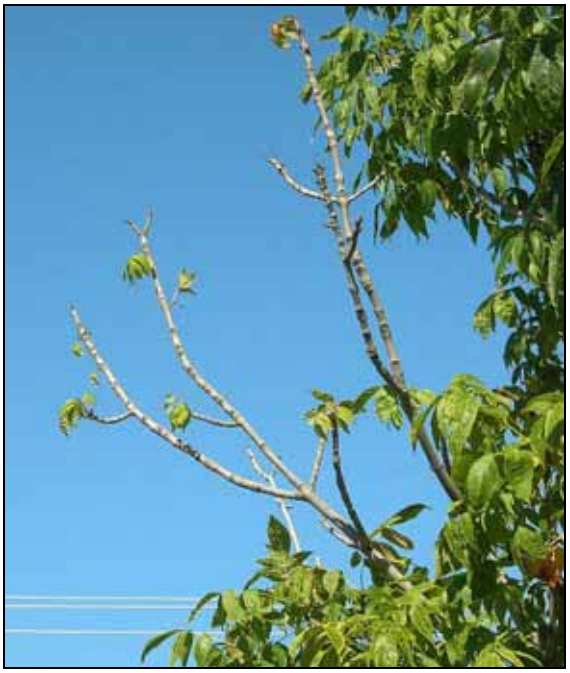

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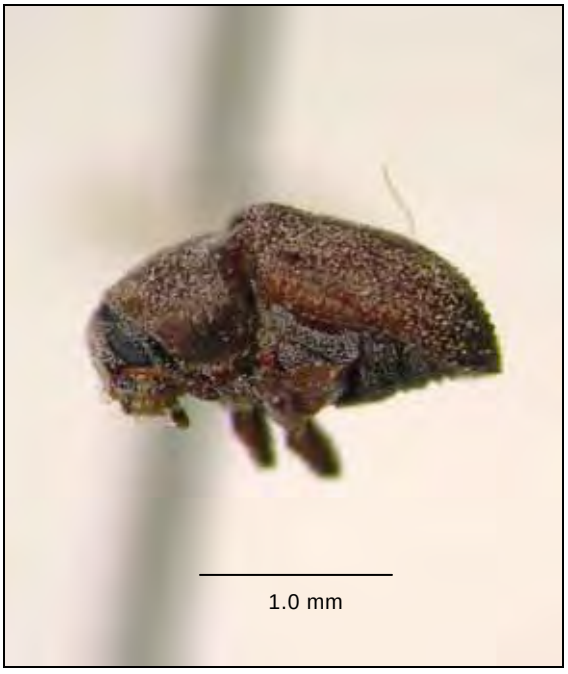

D

A) Damage and defoliation on an ash tree branch. B) Details of the branch damage; stunted leaf growth is evident. C) Adult egg gallery under the bark; enlarged egg ventilation holes encircle the branch; as larvae mine chambers under the bark the branch eventually dies; a round adult exit hole is present above the egg gallery. D) Adult western ash bark beetles are minute in size and do not directly contribute to branch damage.