

Ten-lined June beetle

What is it?

The Ten-lined June beetle (*Polyphylla decemlineata*) is a very serious pest when it occurs, with control being difficult and expensive to implement.

The beetle larvae live in sandy soil and feed on the roots, weakening and sometimes killing infested trees. Adult beetles, which are about 2.5 cm in length, feed on foliage but this activity does not cause major losses. There is no effective control except for tree removal and fumigation of soil before replanting.

What to look for?

This pest can infest a range of species, with almonds, most deciduous fruit tree, roses and potatoes the most susceptible.

The larvae are typical scarab larvae, cream in colour and C-shaped. Larvae have a brown head and may reach 50 mm in length.

Adult beetles are attracted to light and are active during summer nights. They are distinctive due to the longitudinal white stripes on their back and clubbed antennae.



Eugene E. Nelson

Adult Ten-lined June beetle



Whitney Cranshaw

Ten-lined June beetle larvae

Where is it found?

The Ten-lined June beetle is currently found in western USA, where it is a serious problem, particularly on sandy soils.



Calibas

Adults have distinctive longitudinal white stripes and clubbed antennae

The death of a cluster of almond trees, especially in sandy soil, may indicate the presence of this pest. In these cases, trees should be investigated for the presence of larvae or evidence of its feeding in both the woody and young roots from the top 60 cm of soil. Because the life cycle of this beetle is long, infestations do not expand rapidly.

What is the best protection for my orchard?

Do not introduce soil to your orchard and all virgin soil (especially if sage bush has grown there previously), should be checked thoroughly before planting trees.

Neglected orchards and feral almonds should be reported to your local department of primary industries.

Check your orchard frequently for the presence of new pests and unusual symptoms. Make sure you are familiar with common pests so you can tell if you see something different.



Cheryl Moorehead

Adult Ten-lined June beetle

If you see anything unusual, call the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline on 1800 084 881.

**EXOTIC PLANT PEST HOTLINE
1800 084 881**



Jack Kelly Clerk, UC Statewide IPM Program

Almond trees dying from root damage by Ten-lined June beetle larvae

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