

Citrus longicorn beetle

What is Citrus longicorn beetle?

Citrus longicorn beetle (*Anoplophora chinensis*) is a large wood boring beetle that attacks a wide range of plant species, particularly citrus and other fruit trees. It is considered a destructive pest due to the detrimental effects of the larval feeding activities, which reduces plant vigour and results in death of young or small plants.

What does it look like?

Adults are black and shiny with 10-12 irregular white spots on the outer wing cover. Males grow up to 21 mm in length and females up to 37 mm. The banded antennae are between 1.2 and 2 times the length of the body.

The creamy-white eggs are 2 mm wide and 6 mm long and change to a yellow-brown colour just before hatching. Larvae are creamy-white with a black head and grown up to 60 mm in length. They are cylindrical in shape and lack obvious legs.

What can it be confused with?

Australia currently has a number of large (>2 cm in length) endemic beetles that share characteristics with the Citrus longicorn beetle, but none are as destructive on commercial plants.

The exotic pest can be distinguished by the body markings and by the antennae, which are longer than their body.

The Citrus longicorn beetle is also commonly confused with the Asian longicorn beetle. This pest is also exotic, so any large beetle with antennae longer than its body should be reported.



Outer wing covers are black with irregular white spots



Characteristic exit hole produced in the trunk



Citrus longicorn beetle larvae feed internally on woody tissue



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What should I look for?

The larvae and adult beetle feed internally on plant tissue and are hard to see. However, their presence can be detected by round exit holes (6-11 mm) in the base of trunks, sap bleeding from egg laying sites, possible swellings in the trunk where pupal chambers occur or frass (sawdust) accumulating at the base of infested trees.

How does it spread?

This beetle can spread over 1 km by flight. However, long distance spread of this pest would most likely occur through the movement of eggs, larvae and pupae in woody planting material, such as nursery stock.

Where is it now?

This beetle is endemic throughout Asia, and some isolated populations have been detected in Europe and North America.

How can I protect my trees from Citrus longicorn beetle?

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

If you see anything unusual, call the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline

EXOTIC PLANT
PEST HOTLINE
1800 084 881

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Adult beetles have striped antennae that are longer than the body



Stem feeding damage caused by Citrus longicorn beetle



Internal trunk damage caused by larval feeding