





Technical Bulletin for: Western Pine Beetle

Dendroctonus brevicomis (LeConte) • Coleoptera, Scolytidae • DENBRE



DISTRIBUTION	California, Oregon, Washington, Idaho, southern British Columbia, Montana, Nevada, Utah, Colorado, Arizona, New Mexico, and Western Texas, southward into northwestern Mexico.
HOSTS	Ponderosa or Coulter Pine
DESCRIPTION	
Adult	3-5 mm long, dark brown and cylindrical in shape
Larvae	Small white grubs.
Eggs	Small, pearly-white in color.
LIFE HISTORY	There are several generations per year of western pine beetle. This number varies with location, depending upon elevation and latitude. Western pine beetles are virtually inactive during the winter months but as soon as the weather becomes warmer, they will increase their activity. The first sign of western pine beetle attack is the production of pitch tubes on ponderosa pines. The beetles mate, and eggs are deposited along the margins of the central gallery, then pack these galleries with frass (boring dust and beetle excrement) once the eggs have been deposited. These eggs hatch out, and the tiny larvae feed briefly within the inner bark on the phloem layer. However, after this brief period, the larvae turn out into the bark of the host tree and continue to tunnel within the outer bark. Pupation occurs within the outer bark, and the next generation of beetles will emerge later.

MONITORING INFORMATION

LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE	Exo-brevicomin, Frontalin and Myrcene in a plastic bulb in netting. Lure Longevity: Forty-five (45) days.	
TRAP TO USE	Panel Trap	
MONITORING STRATEGY	Hang traps near host plants, at least 1 m off of the ground. When trapping for multiple species of insect, a spacing of up to 20m is recommended. Check with local Forestry Service for further information and recommendations.	
CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROL	Inspect for damage to crops, which includes sap ooze from bark as well as frass ejected from the bark. Heavier infestations can be determined by swollen and/or galled/cankered trunks with numerous entrance/exit holes. Remove infested branches, or whole tree if infestation is significant enough, and incinerate remains as necessary.	

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