





Technical Bulletin for: Western Balsam Bark Beetle

Dryocoetes confusus (Swaine) • Coleoptera, Scolytidae • DRYCON



DISTRIBUTION	Canada (Alberta and British Columbia), and the U.S (Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming)
HOSTS	Pacific Silver Fir, Balsam Fir, Rocky Mountains Subalpine Fir, Rocky Mountain White Fir, Grand Fir, Rocky Mountain Fir, and Engelmann Spruce
DESCRIPTION	
Adult Moth	The adults are cylindrical and 3.4-4.3 mm long. They are shiny, ranging in color from yellow-brown to reddish-brown to black and clothed with erect setae. The head is only slightly visible from above, the frons is convex and distinctive in females, with a circular patch of very dense reddish-brown to yellow hair-like setae, as opposed to sparsely pubescent in males
Larvae	The larvae are white, legless and slightly curved. They have a lightly sclerotized, pale-tan head capsule and are 3-4 mm long when mature
Eggs	The eggs are smooth, oval, white and translucent
LIFE HISTORY	Adults emerge from infested hosts and fly from May to August at temperatures ranging from 9 to 27°C. Attacking males excavate a nuptial chamber in the phloem, and accept up to five females, which mine egg galleries radiating out from the nuptial chamber. Eggs are laid on both sides of the egg galleries and the larvae bore irregular mines in the phloem. Adults that have attacked in the spring and summer overwinter in extensions of the nuptial chamber (males) and egg galleries (females) and resume mating and oviposition in the following spring. In mid-summer they may re-emerge to establish a second brood on the same tree or on a new host. Larvae and eggs produced in the first summer overwinter in the phloem and resume development in the following spring. There are four instars.

MONITORING INFORMATION

LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE	Exo-brevicomin, Myrtenol and Mercene in a plastic vial in netting. Lure Longevity: Forty-five (45) days.	
TRAP TO USE	Panel Trap	
MONITORING STRATEGY	Hang traps near or in trees near existing damage, or at least 1 m off of the ground. Check with local Forestry Service for further information and recommendations.	
CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROL	Inspect damage to crops, specifically for egg/nuptial chambers. Remove infested plants as necessary. Do not plant new crop near areas of recent infestation.	

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