

Host plants

Very susceptible (may cause tree death)

Arroyo willow (<i>Salix lasiolepis</i>)	Box elder (<i>Acer negundo</i>)	London plane (<i>Platanus x hispanica</i>)
Big leaf maple (<i>Acer macrophyllum</i>)	California sycamore (<i>Platanus racemosa</i>)	Palo verde (<i>Parkinsonia aculeata</i>)
Black cottonwood (<i>Populus trichocarpa</i>)	Castorbean (<i>Ricinus communis</i>)	Red willow (<i>Salix laevigata</i>)
Black poplar (<i>Populus nigra</i>)	English oak (<i>Quercus robur</i>)	Trident maple (<i>Acer buergerianum</i>)
Black willow (<i>Salix gooddingii</i>)	Fremont cottonwood (<i>Populus fremontii</i>)	Valley oak (<i>Quercus lobata</i>)

Susceptible (causes dieback)

African tulip tree (<i>Spathodea campanulata</i>)	Common fig (<i>Ficus carica</i>)	Mexican sycamore (<i>Platanus mexicana</i>)
American sweet gum (<i>Liquidambar styraciflua</i>)	Coral tree (<i>Erythrina coralloides</i>)	Mimosa (<i>Albizia julibrissin</i>)
Avocado (<i>Persea americana</i>)	Cork oak (<i>Quercus suber</i>)	Moreton Bay chestnut (<i>Castanospermum australe</i>)
Blackwood (<i>Acacia melanoxylon</i>)	Council tree (<i>Ficus altissima</i>)	Mule fat (<i>Baccharis salicifolia</i>)
Blue palo verde (<i>Cercidium floridum</i>)	Englemann oak (<i>Quercus engelmannii</i>)	Purple orchid tree (<i>Bauhinia variegata</i>)
Brazilian coral tree (<i>Erythrina falcata</i>)	Evergreen maple (<i>Acer paxii</i>)	Red flowering gum (<i>Eucalyptus ficifolia</i>)
Brea (<i>Cercidium sonora</i>)	Honey locust (<i>Gleditsia triacanthos</i>)	Shiny xylosma (<i>Xylosma congestum</i>)
California buckeye (<i>Aesculus californica</i>)	Jacaranda (<i>Jacaranda mimosifolia</i>)	Southern magnolia (<i>Magnolia grandiflora</i>)
Camellia (<i>Camellia semiserrata</i>)	Japanese beech (<i>Fagus crenata</i>)	Strawberry tree (<i>Dombeya cacuminum</i>)
Canyon live oak (<i>Quercus chrysolepis</i>)	Japanese maple (<i>Acer palmatum</i>)	Sweet bay (<i>Magnolia virginiana</i>)
Carrotwood (<i>Cupaniopsis anacardioides</i>)	Japanese wisteria (<i>Wisteria floribunda</i>)	Tamarix (<i>Tamarix ramosissima</i>)
Chinese flame tree (<i>Koelreuteria bipinnata</i>)	Kentia palm (<i>Howea forsteriana</i>)	Titoki (<i>Alectryon excelsus</i>)
Chinese holly (<i>Ilex cornuta</i>)	King palm (<i>Archontophoenix cunninghamiana</i>)	Tree of heaven (<i>Ailanthus altissima</i>)
Chinese wingnut (<i>Pterocarya stenoptera</i>)	Kurrajong (<i>Brachychiton populneus</i>)	Tulip wood (<i>Harpullia pendula</i>)
Coast coral tree (<i>Erythrina caffra</i>)	Laurel leaf snail seed tree (<i>Cocculus laurifolius</i>)	Weeping willow (<i>Salix babylonica</i>)
Coast live oak (<i>Quercus agrifolia</i>)	Mesquite (<i>Prosopis articulata</i>)	White alder (<i>Alnus rhombifolia</i>)

POLYPHAGOUS SHOT HOLE BORER

Information guide



Queensland
Government

AGRICULTURE VICTORIA



Australian Government

Department of Agriculture,
Water and the Environment

**IF YOU SEE ANYTHING UNUSUAL,
CALL THE EXOTIC PLANT PEST HOTLINE**

1800 084 881

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Plant Health
AUSTRALIA

NATIONAL
FOREST
BIOSECURITY

EXOTIC PEST – CALL THE EXOTIC PLANT PEST HOTLINE IF SUSPECTED

About polyphagous shot hole borer

Polyphagous shot hole borer (*Euwallacea fornicatus*) is a tiny beetle that bores into living trees spreading the fungal pathogen *Fusarium euwallaceae* that causes dieback and eventually kills the tree.

This species is **not present in Australia** but could enter on contaminated timber (including wooden items, pallets and packaging material). Surveillance is important for the early detection of incursions and will provide the best chance of successfully eradicating the pest should it enter the country.



Adult beetles are approximately 2 mm long

S Bush, FABI University of Pretoria



Symptoms of borer activity on black wattle (*Acacia mearnsii*): note gumming and staining around the holes

W de Beer, FABI University of Pretoria

Signs, symptoms and appearance

The adults are tiny dark coloured beetles up to 2 mm long. Due to their size it is easier to look for signs of their presence including:

- entry and exit holes, resembling shotgun holes on the bark and branches of trees. Holes are about 1 mm in diameter, often surrounded by stained or discolored bark (especially on oaks and plane trees) and may exude gum, sap or frass (sawdust-like insect waste material)
- discoloured wood under the bark around borer holes, which is caused by the dieback fungus that is spread by the borers.
- dieback of affected branches or tree death.

This pest can be looked for at any time of the year. Ideally plants should be inspected on a monthly basis, looking for the distinctive shot holes but also, at a tree level, wilting or decline and tree or branch death.



Symptoms of borer activity on *Cupaniopsis anacaroides*: note discolouration of bark around borer holes

Angus Carnegie, NSW DPI

Reporting suspect sightings

If suspect symptoms or insects are seen do not attempt to collect samples but:

1. make a note of the location
2. take a photo
3. report through the MyPestGuide mobile application (agric.wa.gov.au/pests-weeds-diseases/mypestguide)
4. if required follow instructions on how to collect or send samples.



Symptoms of borer activity on oak: note discolouration of bark (left). Look for signs of dieback, such as on this oak tree (right)

W de Beer, FABI University of Pretoria



Gum production associated with borer activity on river red gum (*Eucalyptus camaldulensis*)

W de Beer, FABI University of Pretoria