

URBAN TREE PESTS IN LOUISIANA

Southern pine beetle



PEST IDENTIFICATION

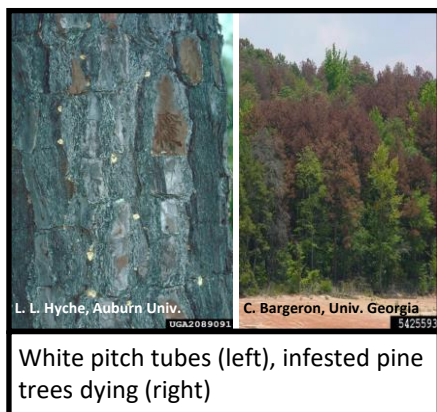
- Scientific name: *Dendroctonus frontalis*
- Origin: Central America, Southern North America
- Larvae are white-yellowish grub with red head, no legs
- Adults are brown-black, cylindrical in shape (2-4 mm)
- Female selects a 'focal' host-tree (stressed/injured), bores into the bark and release aggregation pheromone
- Mass attack: Lots of beetles attracted to focal tree, massive feeding can overcome tree defenses
- Devastating impact to pine forests, timber production, and urban settings (cyclical outbreaks every 5-12 years)

Adult flights

April
June
Aug
Nov

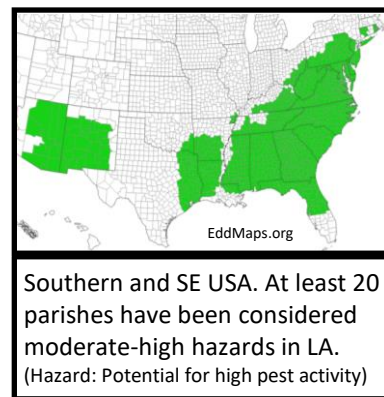


DESCRIPTION OF DAMAGE



- Attacks all pine species but prefers loblolly, shortleaf, pitch, pond, and Virginia pines
- Feeds on tree phloem inside serpentine S-shaped galleries
- Blue-stain fungi is introduced and can block water flow in xylem
- Signs: Foliage discoloration, brownish dust and white tubes at base of tree; results in tree death

PEST DISTRIBUTION



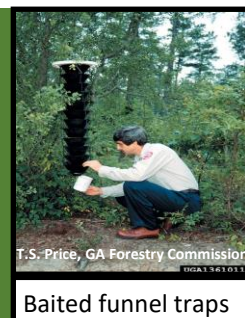
MANAGEMENT OPTIONS

Prevention:

- Plant slash and longleaf pines (resistant) and other tree species
- Forest thinning, keep 25 ft distance apart, maintain tree health
- Monitor pest using baited funnel traps during spring-summer

Treatments: (follow product label for rates, timing, and safety)

- Removal: Cut-down infested tree; salvage tree for selling or destroy bark
- Cut-and-leave: Felling infested trees surrounded by uninfested-felled trees
- Chemical protection: Insecticide sprays (bifenthrin, permethrin) for high-value trees



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