

GOLDSPOTTED OAK BORER



WHAT IS THE THREAT:

The Goldspotted Oak Borer (*Agrilus coxalis*) is a flat-headed wood-borer that was originally found in San Diego, California in 2004. Adult borers are usually 10mm in length and have bullet-shaped black bodies with gold spots on their sides. Larvae are white with two pincher-like spines at the tip of their abdomen. Larvae feed under the bark at the interface of the phloem and the sapwood, known as the cambium.

WHERE IS THE THREAT:

The GSOB can be found in California, Arizona and Mexico. GSOB is currently known to attack three species of oak: coastal live, canyon live, and California black. Oaks with a DBH of 18 inches or above are at the highest risk of dying from a GSOB infestation.

SYMPTOMS:

Bark staining, which can appear as black regions or red blistering with sap oozing from under the bark is often indicative of GSOB attack. As adults emerge from the galleries, they create D-shaped exit holes about 1/8 inch wide. To ascertain that what you are looking at is GSOB, search for the following three signs: the presence of larvae and their galleries, emergence holes, and woodpecker damage (they feed on larvae in the galleries). The infestation of a tree eventually results in canopy dieback and tree mortality.

WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT:

Trunk injection with one of the TREE-äge® family of products should be applied at least 30 days before adult emergence in June; however, treatments may be applied later in the growing season (July-November) to protect against the following year's generation. In dry conditions, a follow up application of NutriRoot® could improve tree health. For more information about additional solutions, including IMA-jet®, Mn-jet Fe™, and AzaSol®, please visit our website.



Feeding Galleries of Larvae Under the Bark



Tree killed by GSOB



Goldspotted Oak Borer

Header Image taken by: Mike Lewis, Center for Invasive Species Research, Bugwood.org Feeding Galleries: USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Area FHP, Durham, NH Office
Tree killed by GSOB: USDA Forest Service Goldspotted Oak Borer: USDA Forest Service, Northeastern Area FHP, Durham, NH Office