



May  
2016

# Asian longhorned beetle

Biosecurity



The Asian longhorned beetle is native to southern China, Hong Kong, Korea and Japan. It has also become established in some parts of the USA, Canada and Austria. It is a wood-boring pest that usually targets hardwood trees such as elm, willow, poplar, maple and a variety of fruit trees. Australia is free from Asian longhorned beetle and we want to keep it that way.

## What the Asian longhorned beetle looks like

An adult beetle is about 20 to 35 millimetres long and 7 to 12 millimetres wide. Its body is jet black in colour with white spots. The antennae are black with whitish-blue rings and can be up to two and a half times the body length.

The larvae look like grubs and can grow up to 50 millimetres long.

Asian longhorned beetle eggs are about 5 to 7 millimetres long, off-white in colour, rectangular in shape and are laid under bark.

## What to look for

The beetle is most likely to arrive on imported timber and wood used for pallets and other packing materials from Asia or North America. Look out for larval tunnels in the wood up to 15 millimetres wide, sawdust-like frass falling from damaged timber, and oval-shaped adult exit holes about 10 to 15 millimetres wide.

## The risk to Australia

An outbreak of Asian longhorned beetle has the potential to devastate Australia's apple and pear plantations and destroy forests and native bush. It is a known tree-killing pest as perfectly healthy trees are quickly overcome by the beetle attack and often die as a result. It can cause serious damage to parkland trees and timber structures in houses.



1.



2.



3.

#### Images

1. Adult Asian longhorned beetle.
2. Asian longhorned larvae.
3. Asian longhorned beetle on damaged timber.

**Note:** Images are not to size.

## What to do if you find any suspect Asian longhorned beetles

### SEE. SECURE. REPORT.

If you see any suspicious indicators such as frass, circular holes in timber, live beetles, larvae or eggs, secure the goods where possible and immediately report it to the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources on 1800 798 636.

For safety consult a Department of Agriculture and Water Resources entomologist before handling specimens.



**Contact**  
 Department of Agriculture and Water Resources  
 1800 798 636 (free call in Australia)



**For more information**  
[agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/report](https://agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity/report)