



## **Polyphagous shot-hole borer (*Euwallacea fornicatus*)**

Industry update #5

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13 May 2022

### **Background**

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) in Western Australia is working closely with the community, industry and stakeholders to control the spread of PSHB and protect urban trees, native trees and vital industries.

DPIRD has been undertaking a comprehensive surveillance program, with the removal of trees necessary as part of the current response, to keep beetle populations down while the next steps are being considered.

Early detection and the prompt removal or pruning of infested trees is key to containing PSHB spread and minimising further impact on neighbouring trees.

### **Current situation**

As of 12 May, there were 101 confirmed infested properties (IPs). There has been one detection outside of the Quarantine Area in Maylands

This detection has led to the expansion of the Quarantine Area (QA) to support the Department's ongoing surveillance program to determine the spread of the pest.

A new [Quarantine Area Notice \(QAN\)](#) came into effect today and now covers 21 local government areas. The new areas added to the expanded QAN are the City of Bayswater, City of Belmont, Town of Bassendean and three localities in the City of Swan – South Guildford, Guildford and Caversham.

The QAN continues to apply to the local government areas of Cambridge, Canning, Claremont, Cockburn, Cottesloe, East Fremantle, Fremantle, Melville, Mosman Park, Nedlands, Peppermint Grove, Perth, South Perth, Stirling, Subiaco, Victoria Park and Vincent. The new QAN replaces the previous notice and will remain in place for six months.

To date, positive samples have been taken from 21 different species of trees including:

- Box elder maple (*Acer negundo*)
- Coral tree (*Erythrina* sp.)
- Sophora (*Sapindus* sp.)
- Poinciana (*Delonix regia*)
- Sea hibiscus/cotton wood (*Talipariti tiliaceum*)
- Mango (*Mangifera indica*)

- Poplar (*Populus* sp.)
- Ash (*Fraxinus* sp.)
- Avocado (*Persea americana*)
- Sapporo Autumn Gold (*Ulmus Sapporo*)
- Hibiscus (*Hibiscus* sp.)
- Fig (*Ficus* sp.)
- Robinia (*Robinia* sp.)
- Wisteria (*Wisteria* sp.)
- Weeping boer-bean (*Schotia brachypetala*)
- Japanese Aralia (*Fatsia japonica*)
- Kei apple (*Dovyalis caffra*)
- Citrus (*Citrus* sp.)
- Candlenut (*Aleurites moluccanus*)
- Kurrajong (*Brachychiton populneus*) and;
- Loquat (*Eriobotrya japonica*)

The Consultative Committee on Emergency Plant Pests (CCEPP) continues to review PSHB incident plans and consider future actions.

### **What to look for**

The adult beetles and larvae can be hard to spot as they spend most of their life inside a tree; however, there are several symptoms that indicate the borer could be present including:

- Multiple entrance holes on the trunk or branches that are up to 2 mm or the size of the tip on a ballpoint pen.
- Frass extruding from the tree and crystalline foam which look like sugar volcanoes exuding from the entry holes.
- Thick resin or sap on the tree's branches or trunk. This can sometimes push the beetle out of the gallery.
- Dark brown to black staining of the wood around entrance holes.
- Wilting and dying branches and eventually tree death. Symptoms usually start in the upper canopy.

### **Reporting and further information**

Residents in Perth and the South West are asked to check their trees and shrubs for signs of beetle holes and report to DPIRD via the [MyPestGuide Reporter app](#) (Google Play Store and Apple iTunes Store), or to the Pest and Disease Information Service on +61 (0)8 9368 3080, or email [padis@dpird.wa.gov.au](mailto:padis@dpird.wa.gov.au)

For further information please visit [agric.wa.gov.au/borer](http://agric.wa.gov.au/borer) or contact Incident Controller, David Cousins on [david.cousins@dpird.wa.gov.au](mailto:david.cousins@dpird.wa.gov.au) or (08) 9368 3920.