

How to report European house borer

The European house borer (EHB) is a destructive pest of seasoned (dry) coniferous softwood, including pine, fir and spruce. EHB can cause structural damage to your house if it infests susceptible roof timbers, door/wall frames, flooring or other pine articles.

Where to look for EHB

- Look around dead pine trees, logs or debris (but only where it is safe and you have permission to do so). The two most common pine tree species in Perth (*Pinus pinaster* and *Pinus radiata*) are susceptible to EHB.
- Check your firewood (if pine), and any pine timber left lying around in the yard.
- Any other articles made of pine wood may also be susceptible e.g. pine furniture. (on one occasion, EHB was found inside a home-made pine log cat catcher!)
- Suitably accredited pest control operators might also check pine roofing timber.
- Some areas of Perth and surrounds are already known to have EHB, while other areas are thought to be free of EHB. You can check our [website map](#) to see if you live in or near an area with known EHB.

What to look for

- EHB beetles emerge from the beginning of September to April the following year.
- Beetles are a brownish-black to greyish-black with distinctive white patches on their wings; 8-25mm in length with antennae half as long as their body. They also have two raised black shiny knobs behind their head.



EHB beetle

- Exit holes are 5-10mm in length, oval shaped and run with the grain of the wood.



EHB exit holes

- Frass, a mixture of powdery wood dust and excrement, can sometimes be found below exit holes.
- Larvae are creamy white with a rippled body and enlarged head; up to 40mm in length.



EHB larvae

How to report EHB

- Download the MyPestGuide reporting app agric.wa.gov.au/apps/mypestguide-reporter
- Follow instructions to create a report and upload relevant photos. We would like one or more close up photo/s of the suspected EHB or signs of EHB, and a photo of the broader surrounds to provide context.
- In the 'Send report to' section of the app, select the drop down button 'EHB survey'
- Complete the 'Where' and 'I found' sections before entering your details and sending the report.
- For more information on EHB go to the department's website agric.wa.gov.au/ehb

Important Disclaimer

The Chief Executive Officer of the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development and the State of Western Australia accept no liability whatsoever by reason of negligence or otherwise arising from the use or release of this information or any part of it.

Copyright © State of Western Australia (Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development), 2023.