



## ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE

### Host Plants and Description

Asian longhorned beetles are relatively new pests to the Chicago area. They tunnel into healthy, dying and dead trees, preferring maple, poplar and willow, but also attacking horsechestnut, mulberry, plum, pear, black locust, elm, Chinaberry, citrus, birch, and rose of Sharon. Adults are huge, shiny black beetles up to one inch long, with a series of white dots on their wings. They also have very noticeable black and white antennae that are at least as long as their bodies.

Like most bark beetles, adult longhorned beetles feed on the bark of twigs and young shoots. They are strong fliers, and can travel over  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile looking for a suitable host tree. Females lay eggs in the bark of trees and larvae tunnel into the wood. They emerge as adults through holes  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  " wide.

### Plant Damage and Symptoms

These beetles weaken branches, and if they attack for several years running, they can cause the death of all or part of the tree. The emergence holes that the adult beetles create are distinctive for their size of close to  $\frac{1}{2}$  " and for their rounded uniformity.

### Controls

Insecticides are impractical for this pest. Infested trees must be removed. If beetles are detected, contact your local Extension office.