



Bronze Birch Borer

Agrilus anxius Gory

The bronze birch borer is a native wood-boring insect known to have periodic outbreaks associated with the decline of birch (*Betula* spp.).

Reports of impacts are increasing in the northwest, presumably triggered by periodic and wide-scale tree stress events associated with longer and hotter droughts.

What it Looks Like

- Adults are slender, bronze to coppery metallic
- Eggs are white, oval shaped, and flattened and 1.5mm long and 1.0 mm wide
- Larvae are flattened, slender and are cream to white colored with a brown head
- Pupae resemble adults but are creamy-white and darken into adult coloration before emergence

What to Look For

- D-shaped, 3-5 mm wide emergence holes
- Serpentine ridges seen externally
- Branch and twig dieback
- Yellow, sparse, or stunted foliage in the upper crown
- Woodpecker damage from larval excavation



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Adult next to their D-shaped exit hole
Photo by Steven Katovich, Bugwood.org



Birch tree that has been attacked by borers in Tacoma, WA. Photo by Joey Hulbert

Share Observations

Help track birch health conditions



Use the QR code or go to 'Birch Tree Health Watch' on iNaturalist