

Mediterranean Oak Borer

Xyleborus monographus (Fabr.)



The Mediterranean oak borer is an invasive ambrosia beetle found in California and Oregon. Many oak species are susceptible, possibly including the Northwest's native oak, the Oregon white oak (*Quercus garryana*).

Identification

Female adult beetles are brown and are 3.0-3.2 mm long and are three times as long as they are wide.

The MOB is one of few beetles that attack living oak trees. It can be identified from the boring pattern it makes in wood.



Female beetle. Photo by Robert Rabaglia, USDA Forest Service



Image of galleries made by the beetle
Photo by Curtis Ewing, CALFIRE



Valley Oak in Calistoga invaded by the beetle.
Photo by Dr. Akif Eskalen, UC Davis

Symptoms

- Wilting leaves
- Defoliation
- Flagging on top third of tree
- Dead branches
- Canopy dieback
- Branch death towards trunk

Signs

- Round 1/16" entrance and exit holes
- Boring dust accumulated in mounds
- Black stained galleries in cross sections including xylem tissues

Prevention

- Watch for bore holes in oak trees.
- Don't move infected logs or firewood.
- Buy wood where you plan to burn it.
- Chip material that may be infected.

Report

Report to the Washington Invasive species Council or using 'WA Invasives' App

