

Pest Profile



Photo credit: James Solomon, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Aspen Carpenterworm

Scientific Name: *Acossus populi* (Walker)

Order and Family: Lepidoptera, Cossidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3-6 eggs are laid in a sticky mass in cracks and crevices on the outer bark of the host tree
Larva/Nymph	35 - 40 mm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cream colored• Shiny and hairless• Dark brown head and thoracic shield
Adult	Wingspan: 60 - 80mm	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• A stout-bodied moth• Whitish-gray with yellowish gray and black markings• Light gray forewings with a black pattern• Females are slightly larger than males, have lighter coloration on their hindwings• Males have feathery antennae
Pupa (if applicable)		<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pupation occurs within galleries chewed by larvae within the tree

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Larvae have chewing mouthparts while the adults have sucking mouthparts

Host plant/s: Poplar, Cottonwoods, and Aspen

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Damage is only caused by larvae. Their extensive feeding can cause branches to weaken and break. Larvae also chew large, weepy, circular exit holes at the base of the tree and in main branches. Girdling of the branch also disrupts the flow of nutrients and water within the tree causing dieback.

References:

BugwoodWiki. (2010, October 6). Aspen Carpenterworm. Retrieved March 29, 2016, from http://wiki.bugwood.org/Archive:Borers/Acossus_populi#Description

Geisel, P. M. (2016, September 15). How to Manage Pests. Retrieved March 26, 2017, from <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/PESTNOTES/pn74105.html>