

## Pest Profile



Photo credit: [James Solomon](#), USDA Forest Service, [Bugwood.org](#)

**Common Name:** Carpenterworm Moth

**Scientific Name:** *Prionoxystus robiniae*

**Order and Family:** Lepidoptera: Cossidae

**Size and Appearance:**

	Length (mm)	Appearance
<b>Egg</b>	2.3 mm	Dark olive brown to grayish green, oval in shape.
<b>Larva/Nymph</b>	50.0-76.0 mm	Early instar larvae are dark reddish, medium sized larvae are pinkish white, large male larvae are pinkish to creamy brown, large female larvae are greenish white. Both male and female caterpillars have a dark head and dark brown tubercles on body.
<b>Adult</b>	38.0-71.0 mm	Large, heavy bodied, with grayish forewings, mottled with black. Males have orange hindwings, smaller than females.
<b>Pupa (if applicable)</b>	37.0-50.0 mm	Dark, shiny brown, broad at head end and tapering at hind end, and a pair of toothed bands on dorsal surface of abdominal segments.

**Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.):** Chewing

**Host plant/s:** Oak, birch, elm, ash, poplar, maple, willow, cottonwood

**Description of Damage (larvae and adults):** Larvae chew cavelike burrows about 50.00 mm in diameter and galleries into the sapwood or hardwood of trunks and large branches, with oval to irregular shaped bark scars present. Heavy infestations damage integrity of trees and cause breakage in high winds; chronically infested trees appear gnarled and misshapen.

**References:**

Barlett, T. (2004). Species *Prionoxystus robiniae* - Carpenterworm Moth - Hodges#2693. Retrieved from <http://bugguide.net/node/view/3604>

Cranshaw, W. (2004). *Garden insects of North America: The ultimate guide to backyard bugs*. Princeton, NJ: Princeton University Press.

Hannon, E.R.; Beers, E.H. (2007). *Carpenterworm*. Orchard Pest Management Online, Tree Fruit Research & Extension Center. Retrieved from: <http://jenny.tfrec.wsu.edu/opm/displaySpecies.php?pn=575>

Onomo, J. (2010). *Prionoxystus robiniae*. Retrieved from [http://wiki.bugwood.org/Prionoxystus\\_robiniae](http://wiki.bugwood.org/Prionoxystus_robiniae)