

## Pest Profile



Photo credit: Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org

**Common Name:** Western boxelder Bug

**Scientific Name:** *Boisea rubrolineata*

**Order and Family:** Hemiptera, Rhopalidae

**Size and Appearance:**

	Length (mm)	Appearance
<b>Egg</b>	1.5mm	Yellow in color but change to red as nymphs develop; oval shaped; females lay eggs in crevices in the bark of boxelder trees.
<b>Larva/Nymph</b>		Bright red; become blackish with black wing buds as they become older; wing pads grow as they molt; similar looking to adults.
<b>Adult</b>	10-14mm	Body is mostly black in color with three red lines on the pronotum (the area just behind the head); multiple thin red lines are on the wings; red abdomen; black head and antennae; wings are held flat against body when resting; 2 generations a year.
<b>Pupa (if applicable)</b>		

**Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.):** Nymphs and Adults: Piercing-sucking

**Host plant/s:** Boxelder trees, various fruit trees such as pear, and kiwi. They may also feed on maple and ash trees. They can feed on the fruits of trees such as almond, apple, peach, pear, cherry, and plum. Prefer seed bearing female boxelder trees.

**Description of Damage (larvae and adults):** The adults feed by sucking juices from fruits and foliage with their piercing sucking mouthparts. The nymphs feed on juices from fruits, flowers, foliage and twigs. Do little damage to ornamental trees. Occasional puckering or distortion of fruit. They can become a nuisance in the fall when large numbers seek sheltered overwintering places such as patios and inside houses.

## References:

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