

# Pest Profile



Photo Credits: [Magnus Manske](#), 2011.

Photograph shows a typical small male and a larger female. Most reported observations are with the pairs together.

**Common Name:** Two-striped Walking Stick

**Synonyms:** Stick bug, devil's riding horse, prairie alligator, witch's horse, devil's darning needle, spitting devil, and musk mare.

**Scientific Name:** *Anisomorpha buprestoides* (Stoll)

**Order and Family:** Phasmatodea: Pseudophasmatidae

**Size and Appearance:**

	Length (mm)	Appearance
<b>Egg</b>	3.25mm	Small, brown, seed-like. Eggs are laid in soil and in leaf litter and overwinter until spring hatch.
<b>Larva/Nymph</b>		Look like small adults.
<b>Adult</b>	Males: 41.7mm Females: 67.7mm	Brown with two white stripes running down the back, divided by a black stripe. Walking sticks are good at camouflage, looking like a twig and hard to find. They also have the ability to regenerate lost legs.
<b>Pupa (if applicable)</b>		

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

**Host plants:** Trees, shrubs, crepe myrtles, oaks, basswood, wild cherry, rosemary, ligustrum, and roses.

**Description of Damage (larvae and adults):** Damage to leaves is usually minor. When infestations do occur there can be significant defoliation. Feeding is nocturnal.

**Medical note:** The Two – striped Walking Stick has two elongated, sac-like glands in the thorax with an opening just behind the head that can squirt a strong-smelling defensive “acidic” spray. It is painful and irritating to the eyes and mucous membranes. Squirted distance has been reported up to two feet away.

**References:**

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