

Pest Profile



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Common Name: Redneck cane borer

Scientific Name: *Agrilus ruficollis* Fabricius

Order and Family: Coleoptera, Buprestidae

Size and Appearance:

| | Length (mm) | Appearance |
|-----------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Egg | 1.0 – 1.5 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Irregularly oval • Flattened • Dirty white with brownish edges |
| Larva/Nymph | 16 – 19 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Elongated • Flattened • White to pale yellowish with brown head • First thoracic segment prominent • Last segment of abdomen ends in pair of slender, forceps-like horns with three blunt teeth on inner edge of each |
| Adult | 6 – 8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Narrowly elongated and cylindrical • Elytra vary from velvety black to blue black with bluish reflection • Thorax usually coppery red but sometimes golden, brassy, or blue • Red pronotum • Head small, dark, bronze and deeply grooved • Antennae and legs very short relative to rest of body |
| Pupa (if applicable) | | |

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

Host plant/s: Raspberry, blackberry, dewberry. Shows a decided preference for blackberry but attacks all varieties of raspberry and dewberry, wild and cultivated.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Larval tunneling causes irregular swellings or galls. Swellings initially are elongate or spindle-like but gradually enlarge and often exhibit multiple splits and become greatly roughened in appearance. The swelling sometimes forms gouty like galls. Infested plants appear weakened, and fruits develop poorly. Cane breakage is common. The borer has been particularly destructive in cultivated plantings.

Reference:

Solomon, J. D. (1995). Guide to insect borers in North American broadleaf trees and shrubs. *Agriculture Handbook (Washington)*, (AH-706).