

Pest Profile



Photo credit: Royal M. Tyler, Jr., Bugguide.net

Common Name: Twig Pruner

Scientific Name: *Elaphidionoides villosus*

Order and Family: Coleoptera: Cerambycidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg		
Larva/Nymph	8-20 mm	Elongate, cylindrical, creamy white to yellowish white. Thoracic prolegs are short and rudimentary. It has spines on the first few joints of the antennae and at the tips of the elytra (forewings).
Adult	12-20 mm	Elongate, slender, parallel-sided, light to dark brown with irregular patches of fine gray hairs.
Pupa (if applicable)		Pupation occurs within the twig and adults emerge in late summer.

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

Host plant/s: Pecan, hickory, elm, nut trees, flowering fruit trees, maple, linden, hackberry, wisteria, and honeylocust. Generally will attack any forest, shade, or fruit tree but has strong preference for oaks.

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): Eggs are deposited in slits in bark at leaf axils near the tips of very small green twigs. Larvae develop within the twig and at the base of their tunneling they girdle the twig, leaving only the bark. Leaves of the effected branches will turn brown prematurely and the injured twigs are dropped from the tree. The larvae continue to develop in the dropped twigs, the ground under infested trees may be littered with fallen twigs. Injuries seldom kill the tree, but pruning affects the aesthetics - heavy twig losses reduce fruiting area and young trees may be deformed. Pest control involves burning fallen branches.

References:

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