



**PEST PATROL
CAMPAIGN**



Agrilus anxius bronze birch borer

Why Observe?

Bronze birch borer (*Agrilus anxius*) is wood-boring beetle that is native to North America. Periodic outbreaks of this borer have led to widespread mortality of birch (*Betula spp.*) trees; beech (*Fagus spp.*) trees can also be affected.

We forecast adult emergence based on the accumulation of growing degree days. One approach for controlling bronze birch borer is to treat with herbicide when adults begin to emerge, with the goal of controlling newly hatched larvae before they burrow into the bark and are no longer susceptible to control.

Tips for Identification

Bronze birch borers are dark, iridescent, often greenish-bronze beetles, about one quarter to half an inch long. Adults create a "D"-shaped exit hole in the bark.

Be aware that there is variation from individual to individual within a species, so your insect may not look exactly like the one pictured. If you are uncertain whether or not a phenophase is occurring, report a "?" for its status until it becomes clear what you are observing after subsequent visits.



[Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org, CC BY 3.0](#)



[Jana Albers, Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, Bugwood.org, CC BY 3.0](#)



Agrilus anxius
bronze birch borer



[Whitney Cranshaw, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org, CC BY 3.0](#)

Adults

One or more adults are seen or heard moving about or at rest.



Adults feeding

One or more adults are seen feeding. If possible, record the name of the species or substance being eaten or describe it in the comments field. For *Agrilus anxius*, adults feed on the leaves of trees.



Mating

A male and female are seen coupled in a mating position, usually with the male on top of the female.



Egg laying

A female is seen laying eggs on a plant. If possible, record the name of the plant or describe it in the comments field. For *Agrilus anxius*, eggs are typically deposited in tree bark cracks and crevices.

Phenophases not pictured: Dead adults, Individuals in a net, Individuals in a trap