

Red-Haired Bark Beetle

Hylurgus ligniperda

Native of Europe, the Red-Haired Bark Beetle was first introduced to New York in 2000. A pest of a large range of hosts including; pine species, spruce, true firs, Douglas fir and larch; it attacks stumps, freshly cut logs and recent logging slash. The Red-Haired Bark Beetle is **not yet present in Rhode Island**.



Pest and Disease Image Library, Bugwood.org



Kent Loeffler, Cornell University, Bugwood.org

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Identifying Features:

A small beetle, the adult Red-Haired Bark Beetle is approximately 2 mm wide by 6 mm long. Although black in appearance, the beetle actually has reddish hair covering the posterior slope of the wing covers and the front of the head. The elytral apex is convex with a slight indentation. Teeth are not present on the declivity.

Along the stem, roots and root collar, larvae feed on the inner bark. Females oviposit near the root collar in standing trees as well as on freshly cut logs, stumps, slash and seedlings.

The Red-haired Bark Beetle can vector forest pathogens such as *Leptographium*.



William M. Ciesla, Forest Health Management International, Bugwood.org

Information Sources

[Redhaired Pine Bark Beetle, *Hylurgus ligniperda*](http://pest.ceris.purdue.edu/searchpest.php?selectName=INBQQDA), 19 February 2009 <<http://pest.ceris.purdue.edu/searchpest.php?selectName=INBQQDA>>.

[New Introduction: The Red-haired Bark Beetle, *Hylurgus ligniperda* Fabricius \(Coleoptera: Scolytidae\)](http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/pest_al/redhaired/red_haired_bark_beetle.pdf), 19 February 2009 <http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/pest_al/redhaired/red_haired_bark_beetle.pdf>.

[Canadian Food Inspection Agency – Pest Information – *hylurgus ligniperda* \(Fabricius\) – Red-haired Bark Beetle](http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/plaveg/pestrava/hyllig/tech/hyllige.shtml), 20 April 2007, 19 February 2009 <<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/english/plaveg/pestrava/hyllig/tech/hyllige.shtml>>.

Image Sources

[Redhaired Pine Bark Beetle, *Hylurgus ligniperda*](http://www.invasive.org/browse/subject.cfm?sub=885), 19 February 2009 <<http://www.invasive.org/browse/subject.cfm?sub=885>>.

Damage:

- Females construct a short entrance tunnel in the inner bark and then proceed to construct long egg galleries running parallel to, or at an angle with, the grain of the wood.
- Notches cut in the walls of the egg gallery, covered with frass.
- Small, round exit holes.

If the beetle vectored a fungal pathogen:

Dark staining, reduced height and branch growth, crown thinning, chlorosis and tree mortality may be apparent.