

Identifying Woodworm in the Home Page 1

Species	Timber Attacked	Damage	Signs
Common Furniture Beetle	Sapwood of soft and hard timbers, older plywoods. Modern plywoods & tropical hardwoods are generally immune.	Severe, extensive tunneling that generally follows the grain of the timber. Treatable.	Lots of gritty, uniformly coloured dust that can be easily knocked from the timber. Round tunnels generally running with the grain. Round flight holes on timber surface of approx. 1-2mm dia.
Death Watch Beetle	Hardwoods with some degree of physical (ageing) decay eg Oak, Elm. Softwoods where significant decay is present and when it located close to the aforementioned hardwoods.	Severe, extensive tunneling that can be more evident internally to the timber. Treatable.	Gritty, large pellets of dust (frass) of uniform colour. Round tunnels with a lot of dust. Round flight holes on timber surface of approx. 3mm dia.
Xestobium rufovillosum			
Wood-boring Weevils	Well decayed, aged hardwoods and softwoods.	Tunneling with the grain of the timber due to larvae and adult beetle activity. Tunnels frequently break the surface of the timber.	Lots of gritty, uniformly coloured dust that can be easily knocked from the timber. Round tunnels generally running with the grain and breaking the surface. Round, jagged flight holes on timber surface of approx. 1mm dia.
Powder Post Beetle	Sapwood of wide pored hardwoods eg Oak, Obeche with high starch levels. Obeche core in plywoods. Timbers over 10 years old achieve immunity due to starch (glucose) depletion of the natural ageing process.	Severe tunneling in the sapwood, with the grain in early stages. Sapwood may be totally disintegrated with only a thin, sound surface to timber. Treatable.	A smooth, flour like dust that can be easily knocked from the timber. Round tunnels that frequently intersect, often following grain in early stages. Round flight holes on timber surface of approx. 1-2mm dia.
House Longhorn Beetle	The sapwood of softwoods.	Severe tunneling that often coalesces. Sapwood may be totally destroyed leaving thin veneer surface that may appear corrugated. The tunnels full of frass and often exhibit fine ridges. Treatable.	Sausage shaped pellets (frass) readily visible to naked eye and easily shaken from the timber. Large, oval shaped tunnels that often coalesce. Oval, jagged flight holes on timber surface of approx. 6-10mm dia.

The emergence (flight) holes shown with illustrations are approx. to scale when whole page printed on A4 portrait

We hope you find this document useful and welcome any feedback or questions you may have

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Identifying Woodworm in the Home Page 2

Species	Timber Attacked	Damage	Signs
Wharf Borer	Severly decayed, aged hardwoods and softwoods. Softwood reported to be the beasts preference.	Severe tunneling in rotted wood The tunnels full of mud like frass and coarse fibres. Tunnels generally follow the grain of the timber.	Mud like frass with clutches of coarse fibre. Large, oval shaped tunnels that often coalesce. Oval, jagged flight holes on timber surface of approx. 6-7mm dia.
Bark (Waney Edge) Borer	Seasoned and partly seasoned timber with bark present. Bark presence required to initiate attack.	Surface scoring to outer sapwood, some holes present. Most damage present in bark.	Gritty, round shaped pellets of uniform colour. Round tunnels mainly in the bark if present. Round flight holes of approx. 2mm dia.
Wood Wasp	Softwoods of newly felled logs & unhealthy trees. This forest insect will not attack seasoned wood.	Discrete tunnels with hard packed fibrous frass.	A coarse, fibrous frass hard to remove from tunnels. Large round, smooth edged tunnels of good separation. Round flight holes of approx. 6-7mm dia.
Fan Bearing Wood Borer	The sapwood of certain European hardwoods eg Oak Rarely found in furniture.	Severe tunneling in the sapwood, with the grain in early stages, Similar to Powder Post Beetle but frass is extremely hard packed. Sapwood may be totally disintegrated with only a thin, sound surface to timber.	A smooth, flour like dust that cannot be knocked from the timber, requires digging out. Round tunnels full of hard frass. Round flight holes on timber surface of approx. 2mm dia.
Pinhole Borers Constant of the second	Newly felled logs of hardwoods and softwoods. This forest insect will not attack seasoned wood.	Tunneling due to female adult activity is across the grain. Blue/black staining to tunnel wall.	No dust/frass. Round tunnels of varying size due to many species. Round entry holes that vary in size with the species, black stained.

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