

Wanted: Location of Soapberry Borer Infestations in Texas

The Texas Forest Service is attempting to determine the current distribution of the soapberry borer in Texas. The soapberry borer, *Agrilus prionurus*, is an invasive wood-boring beetle recently introduced from Mexico that has been attacking and killing western soapberry trees in various counties of Texas. If you spot dead or dying western soapberry trees, please report the following information to Dr. Ron Billings at rbillings@tfs.tamu.edu. If possible, attach digital photos of the bark chips, larval galleries, D-shaped exit holes or other signs of attack, together with a close-up photo of the tree's leaves, so we can confirm the identity of the pest. Please see the attached descriptions if you are uncertain how to identify western soapberry or the damage this flatheaded wood borer causes. Thanks for your cooperation.

Name of observer: _____ County of infestation: _____

Date first observed: _____

Address of infested tree(s), or GPS location if available: _____

- Attack signs noted: ___ Dead soapberry tree with bark removed
(check all observed) ___ Dying soapberry tree with some yellow or green leaves
 ___ Chips of bark at base of tree
 ___ White larvae beneath the bark
 ___ Winding galleries beneath the bark
 ___ "D"-shaped exit holes in bark
 ___ Sprouting of new leaves along trunk
 ___ Adult soapberry borers

Number of trees infested: _____ Average diameter of infested trees: _____ inches

Are there uninfested soapberry trees (> 3" in DBH) at this site? ___ Yes; ___ No; ___ Don't know

Return questionnaire by e-mail to rbillings@tfs.tamu.edu, by fax (979-458-6655), or mail to:

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