





Technical Bulletin for: Peach Tree Borer

Synanthedon exitiosa (Linnaeus) • Lepidoptera, Sesiidae • SYNEXI



DISTRIBUTION	Throughout the United States and Canada.
HOSTS	Peach, apricot, nectarine, plum, prune, cherry and chokecherry.
DESCRIPTION	
ADULT MOTH	Metallic-blue body with clear wings, about 25 mm long.
LARVAE	Pinkish-white with a brown head, about 32 mm at maturity.
EGGS	Eggs are reddish-brown about 0.76 mm long.
LIFE HISTORY	It is reported that it takes two years to complete a life cycle in Canada and in a small percentage of populations in New York. Much of the United States including Texas and Nebraska has one generation per year. A partial second brood is present in Georgia. Florida, however, has two generations per year. Females lays between 400 and 900 eggs on the trunk at the soil-line, or on weeds and surrounding litter around the base of the trunk. The larvae bore into the trunk, large roots, or stems. The larvae feed for 10 days following diapause and enter a pupal stage that is approximately 20 days in length. Adults emerge from pupation in the morning. Within an hour females are ready to mate. More than 60% of the eggs are laid on the first day of adulthood. The lifespan of the adult male and female is about five days. Neither the males nor females will eat during their adult life.

MONITORING INFORMATION

LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE	ZZ-3,13-18Ac and EZ-3,13-18Ac on red rubber septum. Lure Longevity: Thirty (30) days.	
TRAP TO USE	Red Paper or Plastic Delta Trap or Wing Trap	
MONITORING STRATEGY	Place traps by early April. The first moths are expected by 400 – 450 DD. Hang traps within the upper third of the tree canopy (preferably 1.8-2.1 m high) making sure the trap entrance is not blocked and that it is parallel to the prevailing wind direction. Use at least two traps in each orchard. For orchards greater than 10 acres, place one trap for every 5 acres. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.	
CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROLS	Use good cultural practices to maintain trees in a healthy and vigorous state. Paint trunks with a 1:1 dilution of white latex paint to water, or apply white tree wraps in the winter to prevent bark damage from sunscald. Do not leave wraps on trees during the summer. This has been shown to increase borer attack. Avoid mechanical and rodent-caused injuries to trunks.	

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