





# Technical Bulletin for: Lesser Peachtree Borer

*Synanthedon pictipes* (Grote & Robinson) • Lepidoptera, Sesiidae • SYNPIC



<b>DISTRIBUTION</b>	Eastern North America (north and east), present as far west as Minnesota and as far south as Texas.
<b>HOSTS</b>	Peach, plum, cherry, beach plum and black cherry.
<b>DESCRIPTION</b>	
<b>ADULT MOTH</b>	Blue-black, marked with yellow bans; wasp-like in appearance and 15-23 mm long.
<b>LARVAE</b>	White bodies with dark brown heads, about 25 mm long when fully grown.
<b>EGGS</b>	Small, oval and reddish brown.
<b>LIFE HISTORY</b>	Overwinters as an inactive larva under bark. The larvae resume feeding and complete their larval stages in the spring. When fully grown, the larvae pupate under the bark, then emerge as new adults. The only time the moth leaves the tree is during the adult stage. Soon after emerging, the female moth lays her eggs under bark scales or on rough bark. Each female lays about 400 eggs. Eggs hatch in eight to ten days into larvae that bore into the tree. In general, one generation per year in the United States, however two generations per year have been reported in Florida.

## MONITORING INFORMATION

<b>LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENTS, SUBSTRATE &amp; FIELD LIFE</b>	(Z,Z)-3,13-Octadecadienyl acetate and (Z,Z)-3,13-Octadecadienyl acetate in A Red Rubber Septum. Field life: four (4) weeks.	
<b>TRAP TO USE</b>	Red Paper or Plastic Delta Trap	
<b>MONITORING STRATEGY</b>	Traps should be hung 1.2 to 1.8 m above ground and set up in April. It is important to notice when emergence begins (when the first moth is trapped) and when emergence reaches a peak. Check with Cooperative Extension or Master Gardener for local information and recommendations.	
<b>CULTURAL &amp; PHYSICAL CONTROLS</b>	Careless pruning techniques provide many favorable sites for egg laying around stubs of branches. There are a few things that can attract the lesser peachtree borer: branches broken because of insufficient thinning of the fruit and wounds arising from barking the tree with equipment during cultivation and harvest. Prevent sun scald areas by leaving small branches to shade larger limbs. Winter injury of trunks and scaffold branches and cracked limbs resulting from scale infestations also provide sites for larvae feeding. To assist the tree in preventing lesser peachtree borer infestations, clean all damaged area thoroughly and paint with a tree paint. Prior to painting, be sure to remove all debris and rotten wood from the wound.	

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