



## Twig pruner

*Anelaphus villosus*

Order Coleoptera, Family Cerambycidae;  
longhorned beetle, roundheaded borers  
Native pest

**Host plants:** Hardwoods such as elm, hackberry, hickory, locust, maple, oaks, pecan, sweetgum, and walnut

**Description:** Adult beetles are longhorned beetles. They are 11–18 mm long, slender and brown, with two spines at the tip of each elytra, which are covered in patches of fine gray hair. Their antennae are longer than the body. Mature larvae are about 25 mm long and are distinguished by having long lemon colored hairs, particularly on the prothorax.

**Life history:** Adults emerge in late spring and eggs are deposited into slits in the bark at twig tips and leaf axils. Larvae feed beneath the bark and then bore down the center of the stem until late summer. There is one generation a year.

**Overwintering:** Pupae in twigs on the ground.

**Damage symptoms:** Larvae sever twigs by making concentric circular cuts from the center outward under the bark, breaking off twigs. Heavily infested trees may be seriously injured. The appearance of trees may be affected but trees are not killed.

**Monitoring:** Look under trees in August and September for fallen twigs and branches, and cut open a sample to detect larval tunnels and larvae preparing to pupate and overwinter.

**Physical control:** Collect and destroy infested twigs and branches in the spring before adults emerge.

**Chemical control:** There is no insecticide specifically labeled to control this minor pest.

**Biological control:** Three hymenopterous parasitoids are recorded, but degree of control is unknown.

**Plant mortality risk:** Low

**Biorational pesticides:** None

**Conventional pesticides:** None



Twig pruner adult. (237)  
Photo: John Davidson