

# CEDAR BARK BEETLES—*Phloeosinus* spp.

**HOSTS:** Juniper and arborvitae

**IDENTIFICATION, LIFE CYCLE, AND DAMAGE:** Larvae are white and legless.

Beetles are 2 to 4 mm long, reddish-brown to black, and shiny or covered with short gray hairs.

Newly emerged adults initially tunnel and feed in twigs of healthy trees, often hollowing them out about 15 to 30 cm from the tip. Infested twigs wilt, die, and break off. Beetles construct short vertical egg galleries beneath the bark of weakened, dying, and felled trees. Larvae initially construct tunnels horizontally from the egg gallery and then vertically in the phloem. Adults emerge through small exit holes in the bark in the spring and summer. There are from one to one and one-half generations per year.

Although these beetles kill twigs and may girdle branches or portions of a tree, they seldom kill entire trees.

**CONTROL:** No insecticide is currently registered for these insects. Remove and destroy infested twigs. Maintain tree vigor by watering. Contact your local extension service for more information.



Cedar bark beetle gallery