

BOXELDER TWIG BORER—*Proteoteras* spp.

HOSTS: Boxelder (Manitoba maple) and maple

IDENTIFICATION, LIFE CYCLE, AND DAMAGE: Larvae are small yellowish-white caterpillars with dark heads. Moths are white to grayish-brown to olive-green with streaks and clusters of yellowish-tan to black scales on the wings and have a wingspan of about 17 mm.

Moths emerge in June or July and lay eggs on lower leaf surfaces. Young larvae initially feed on these areas and later mine into and overwinter in buds. In spring larvae mine into new shoots. There is one generation per year.

Damage stunts the growth of branches, and trees damaged for several years become bushy. A spindle-shaped gall is formed at the site of the mine, and new growth beyond the gall wilts.

CONTROL: No insecticide is currently registered for this insect. Prune and burn infested twigs in late June. Contact your local extension service for more information.



Boxelder twig borer damage