

Pest Control • Timber Borers



A variety of borers will attack a range of timbers, such as (1) borers found in living trees or freshly felled timber (2) in moist timbers, and (3) borers which attack dry seasoned wood, such as, timber flooring, structural and decorative timbers, and furniture, whereby steadily increasing intensity of infestation may occur.

Borers are a major pest species of certain expensive timbers in a building. For example, the common *Anobium* borer can severely damage Baltic pine timber flooring and furniture.

- **Life Cycle:** An adult female borer beetle will lay her eggs within susceptible timbers. The eggs hatch into a grub (larvae), which will feed on the

starch content of the timber. The borer larvae will readily eat along the timber grain, creating a network of tunnels.

When the larvae is fully-grown, it will pupate sometimes over a long period of time to become an adult beetle, which exits the timber through a hole made in the timber surface. The emerging female adult will lay her eggs, and the life-cycle goes on intensifying the infestation and damage.

- **Identification:** The size of the exit holes and texture of the dust (frass) emitted, will enable a pest control expert to identify the species of timber borer and therefore it's potential to cause damage to susceptible timbers.

Anobium borers attack Furniture or Baltic Pine Flooring

- **Anobium borers** also called Furniture Beetles or scientifically *Anobium punctatum*, can cause severe damage to Baltic pine timber flooring, particularly in older houses with damp flooring timbers caused by poor subfloor ventilation or moisture control.

- **Anobium borers** are also often found in antique and other furniture of various timber types, sometimes years after the furniture has been acquired. You may first notice the small exit holes and accompanying dust emitted from the exit holes in the timber.

(1) in severe cases, the removal and replacement of all damaged and infested timber with highly resistant or chemically treated timbers or particle board, which can be a very expensive undertaking. Improvements in subfloor ventilation may also be

recommended (2) in slight or moderate infestations, the application of a registered insecticide to the underside of the flooring on an annual basis over a three year period to cover the life cycle of the *Anobium* borer.

We recommend the use of Permethrin insecticide due to its low toxicity profile and it's ability to penetrate into the timber grain. Permethrin is a based on the natural of the pyrethrum plant.

- **Permethrin insecticide** application will kill the adult beetle as it emerges from inside the timber, provided the beetle has contact with the treated surface. We recommend you contact a professional who has the equipment and technology to solve the problem.

Lyctus Borers • Susceptible Hardwood Timbers

Various State Governments have enacted a Timber Marketing Act, which prohibits timber being sold for use in buildings if it has more than 25% as sapwood content.

It is the sapwood portion of felled timber (logs) that is susceptible to attack and damage by the *Lyctus* borer, also called Powder Post Beetle or *Lyctus brunneus*.

Therefore, any damage from this borer to such damage it should be returned to the place of timbers will be structurally insignificant. However, purchase and exchanged. if the timber you purchased has Lyctus Borer

RING FUMAPEST ON 1300 241 500 FOR PEST CONTROL OF BORERS

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