



## COMMAND PEST CONTROL

### Information sheet number 55 - House longhorn beetle



#### **Appearance:**

Adults black or dull brown beetle, 10-20mm long, grey patches of hair on wing covers, smooth central line with shiny bumps either side. Emerges from infected timber between July to October. Larvae up to 30mm long, straight, pale cream, three small black dots on either side of mouth.

#### **Breeding:**

After mating the female adult beetle will lay eggs in crevices in surrounding timbers. On warm days, where large and severe infestations occur, a scraping noise may be heard; this is the sound of the larvae feeding on the timber!

#### **Food:**

Found in sapwood of most softwood.

#### **Where do House longhorn beetles live?**

Found in sapwood of most softwood. Infestations mostly in area around Surrey and SW London, where the Building Regulations stipulate treatment of timber intended to prevent the further spread of the insect. Infestations may be recognised by oval, 6mm to 10mm oval, often ragged emergence holes.

The bore dust consists of gritty-feeling cream, sausage shaped pellets. Larval activity may occasionally be audible as a scraping sound. Badly infected timber should be removed and burned.

**Note: Details of all suspected outbreaks of House longhorn beetle should be reported to the Building Research Establishment's Timber and Protection Division, Princes Risborough, Bucks, where records are maintained of all infestations in Britain.**

**For more advice and control recommendations contact us on 01787 248049**