

Importing timber or timber products from Western Australia - a reminder

European house borer (EHB) is a destructive pest of seasoned coniferous timber, including pine and fir. It is not normally found in Australia, but in countries such as South Africa it has caused serious damage to buildings made of pine.

Detections of EHB have been confirmed in Perth, WA at a number of sites, including pine plantations. The WA Department of Agriculture and Food has quarantined these infested sites and prevented the removal of EHB host material, unless it is treated.

Victoria has also prohibited the entry of EHB host material from these sites unless it is accompanied by certification indicating that the material has been stored and treated to prevent infestation by EHB.

EHB host material is any timber of seasoned pinewood, or any item made from timber of seasoned pinewood which is more than 100 cm³ in size, and includes furniture, pallets and structural pinewood.



(l to r): EHB larva, adult male and adult female

This update is to remind Victorian importers and wholesalers of timber and timber products that EHB host material from the Perth quarantine areas must be certified.

Victorian importers and wholesalers should check with their Western Australian suppliers as to whether consignments are sourced from within any of the Perth quarantine areas.



EHB emergence holes and blistering of wood

Information about these areas can be obtained by visiting www.ehb.wa.gov.au, or by calling the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline on 1800 084 881.

Any breach of certification requirements may result in a penalty of up to \$20,000.

For further information regarding the above requirements and arrangements, please contact the **DPI Plant Standards Branch:**

T (03) 8371 3500

F (03) 9687 6746.

Images courtesy of Department of Agriculture and Food, WA

If you receive material which you suspect is infested with EHB, call the Exotic Plant Pest Hotline on **1800 084 881**

For further information about EHB, visit the Plant Standards web page: www.dpi.vic.gov.au/psb