

SAWYER BEETLE

(*MONOCHAMUS* spp.)

PURPOSE OF THIS FACT SHEET

This fact sheet has been developed to inform you of a potential biosecurity threat that the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) has identified which is associated with particular wooden furniture products imported from China. It provides guidance on how you should deal with any infested products.

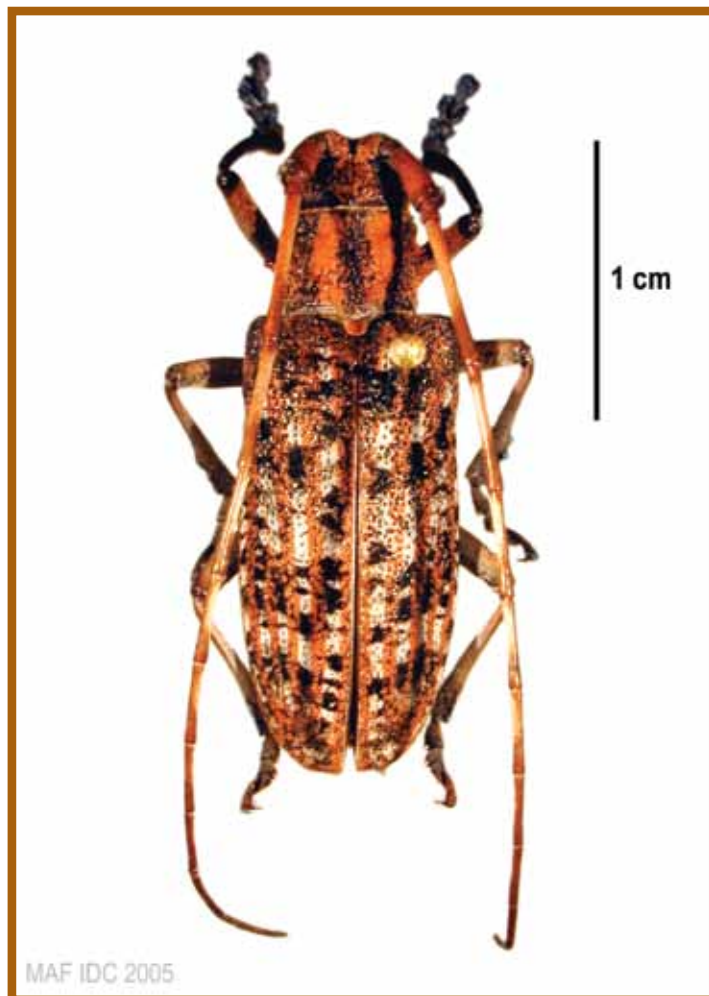
A larva of the sawyer beetle, was recently discovered in the leg of a wooden table (Product #: 711932) recently imported from China. This infested table was imported in the same shipment as wooden chairs (Product #: 711933).

THE THREAT

Sawyer beetle larvae tunnel and feed on the wood of conifer trees such as pine and fir, significantly affecting the quality of the timber and the overall strength of the tree. Because it bores into the tree the damage can be difficult to see. This beetle poses a significant threat to New Zealand's commercial and natural forests through direct loss in productivity of plantation forests, and subsequent difficulties in exporting logs and timber. It may also have adverse impacts on other

exotic and native trees and forests.

The sawyer beetle is also known to transmit the pine wood nematode, a microscopic worm that affects conifers and can cause a serious forest disease called pine wilt disease. Both the beetle and the nematode are known to be present in China, where these table and chairs were imported from.



Adult Longhorned – Sawyer beetle (*Monochamus* spp.)



Larva of Sawyer beetle

TREATMENT

Treatment by fumigation with methyl bromide is the most effective way of killing live *Monochamus* life stages and is a standard treatment used by MPI for biosecurity risks.

WHAT SHOULD YOU DO IF YOU SUSPECT A TABLE OR CHAIR IS INFESTED WITH *MONOCHAMUS*?

It is strongly recommended that all infested products be reported to MPI. MPI will then arrange fumigation of the infested product.

Please direct any further enquiries to the Ministry for Primary Industries on

0800 80 99 66

ask for your call to be directed to Incursion Investigator Heather Pearson

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