

The house borer

The house borer (popularly often Holzbock called) is a wood-damaging insect whose main task is to destroy the disused in nature for producing oxygen softwood ultimately so that it is fed in the final state as humus to the natural cycle. Much like the woodworm and the longhorn beetle has a very specific attack scheme. Harmful is not the house borer, but the house borer larva.

The life cycle of wood-damaging insects, so furniture beetle and longhorn beetle, is that eggs are laid in the wood. The eggs develop into egg larvae develop. The first instar larvae gnaw into the wood. When Hausbock they eat the sapwood of softwood. In a larval weight above 250 mg pupate this. From the chrysalis of the beetle slips. The beetle does not eat wood, but has only the task to care for offspring. Then the cycle begins anew.

It has long been an issue with many questions-prone as the longhorn takes the wood. After drying of softwood (natural drying takes about 1 year) are discharged from the wood terpenes and their oxidation products. This smells of longhorn man. Entomologists say that the smell is up to a distance of 1 km perceived.

The longhorn male flies to the timber and checked with his feeding tools, whether the wood surface is such to allow larvae to develop it. This "taste test" for shows. As to superficially existing wood preservatives. If the wood surface suitable then the house longhorn male emits a fragrance brand. This fragrance brand follow the house borer females and mated.

Therein, the house longhorn different from other wood-destroying insects, in which the females take the decision as to which wood is used for oviposition. This has Dr. Plarre by BAM in Berlin 10 years ago found out.

The females then looking at the wood surface narrow cracks of 0.2 to 05 mm width to drop with its ovipositor in these cracks the eggs. The cracks must therefore be so narrow that emerging from the ovipositor eggs are immediately captured by the walls. After laying their eggs the female dies, the male dies already about two weeks after mating.

From the egg larvae, the larvae develop. This instar larvae must be able to einnagen from the egg membrane into the wood. Since the crack is very narrow, they can become wedged in accordance with this plan to the force necessary to apply to einzunagen into the wood. By now, the destruction begins in the sapwood softwood (xylophagous).

The house borer larvae take in wood including proteins. Here, once the age of the coniferous wood is not very important first. With wood from the 13th century was again determined by BAM in Berlin that used larvae feed on normal and show a normal weight gain.

However, the development is there not as rapidly as in all fresh softwood. While such. B. pine sapwood, which is beaten about 2 years, the house borer larva comes within 2-3 years pupation, it remains in old spruce may also 10-15 years alive until the Verpuppungsgewicht has reached.

The Verpuppungsgewicht is ultimately the key to be that the larvae can pupate. This usually it requires also a stimulus that is that after the cold winter slowly comes the spring and the wood is warmer. Then the larva eats at the wood surface and allowed to stand for a paper-thin skin. then she eats a doll cradle that is free from feeding flour.

In it, the finished beetles developed. This takes about six weeks. Subsequently, the beetle bites through the thin layer of wood to reach the outside. So there is an oval hole in woods about 6-8 mm long and 4-6 mm wide. After hatching, the house borer flies away. The house borer eats no more wood, but he seeks a mate to reproduce. So that the cycle is then closed.

Thus the house borer larva can move in the wood, the body is formed bead. The house borer larva eats the wood and regularly turns and pushes the feeding meal back. When eating it creates a barrel-shaped droppings, which is also called Kotwalze. This feces does not break down due to aging, can be so still determined even in centuries-old wood due to this Kotwalzen whether the house borer (or other longhorn beetle) had lived in this wood.

The females lay up to 350 eggs, which are common nest with 50-60 eggs. Will be accepted for oviposition wood whose moisture content is above 8%. This also makes it possible that even occurs in dried wood attack by the longhorn beetle.

The house borer larva is heat-loving. She studied in the roof like to warmer locations on, so the south side of the roof, changing around the chimneys, skylights, etc .. When growing by feeding in the wood the larva is growing and therefore must shed their skin regularly.

It is important that the house borer larvae during feeding is very sensitive to light. She will not eat holes in the wood surface. Therefore, no feeding flour is urged outwardly during active infection by house borer larvae. The infestation can therefore be seen only after the emergence of the first generation of the costs incurred excursion holes.

The house borer infestation is always a welcome pest for a quick business. For this reason, in the DIN 68 800 Part 3, in which the control is regulated by wood pests, first requires that living infestation is detected. Living infestation can be detected by such. B. flying holes are marked and is then checked at regular intervals of one year, if there are new flying holes.

It is easier if the gnawing sounds can be heard. The fine scratchy wood is heard especially on warm evenings in late summer. Then it is certain that live infestation is present and it can be fought.

By certain circles it's often said, the house longhorn is endangered. This is a misconception. has since been used in practice less and less wood preservatives for preventive protection, the number of house borer infested homes increased. And the careless handling of unprotected wooden surfaces in the great outdoors provides the house borer females always ideal egg-laying sites.

But even in living rooms, it is often the case that the Hausbock exposed ceiling beams uses for egg laying. The enhanced course on the property.

The house borer are alternately warm. This means that they have to fly only above a certain temperature in the position. Before they can only crawl. The departure temperature is about 23 ° C. Therefore, the infestation of wood always takes place only after a long time had exceeded the 23 ° C. This is from May to August. No later than the end of September there will be no living house bucks more. In this respect the construction practices and straightening the house in the fall, with a change could be dispensed preventive wood preservatives when even the befallbaren woods are clad in the building.

But this natural preventive protection contradicts the current construction practices. Therefore, the house longhorn will accompany the people in house construction over again.