

Olive bark beetle (*Phloeotribus scarabaeoides*)



Adult

Photo by G. Arakelian

Distribution: Widely distributed in southern Europe, North Africa and Middle East.
In the US: California.

Field ID: Adults (2.0-2.5 mm long) have dark brown to black bodies densely covered with yellowish hairs. Antennal club with three distinctive movable, leaf-like segments.

Larvae (about 3.0 mm long) are white, legless and with brown heads.

Hosts and damage: Attack olive trees. They were recorded also on oleander, ash and common lilac. Olive bark beetles may have several generations per year.

Adult female enters the bark and bores a tunnel where she lays up to 60 eggs. Hatched larvae excavate new galleries underneath the bark often completely girdling and weakening branches.

Severe infestations may stunt the growth of young trees and reduce number of flowers and olive fruits.



Exit holes and galleries under bark

Photos by D. Delgado (Riverside Co. Agricultural Commissioner's Office)