

Lasioderma serricorne (Fabricius)

(Tobacco beetle, cigarette beetle)

Family: Anobiidae

General information: Most destructive pest worldwide of stored tobacco and herbal drugs (also cereals/grain products, dried meat, fish meal, pepper, ginger) in drug stores, pharmacies, households and warehouses and along the supply chain; can tolerate up to 8 % nicotine; thermophile, prefers (sub)tropical regions; active during twilight; only larvae cause feeding damage, beetles drill out of packaging and fly towards light in search of mating partners and substrate

Infested products: Tobacco, cereal products, herbal drugs

Related species: *Stegobium paniceum* (drugstore beetle)

Total development: Approx. 2 months at 25 °C and 65 - 70 % relative humidity

Egg	Larva	Pupa	Adult (beetle)
			
6 to 10 days	25 to 50 days	7 to 21 days	7 to 30 days
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 0.5 mm long - white - oval - in 8 to 14 days females lay up to 100 eggs individually into the stored products or onto packages close to openings emitting attractive odors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1.4 to 4 mm long - yellowish-white - hair relatively dense, yellowish-brown - head and legs brown 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3 - 4 mm long - yellowish-white 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 – 4 mm long - brownish-red to brownish-yellow - oval and compact body shape, head can be pulled under breastplate - fine grey hairs - antennae serrate (saw-shaped)

Damage: Damage caused by feeding activity, numerous round holes; pupae cocoons made of webbings and substrate particles or feces can form large lumps when heavily infested; contamination by excrements, insect skins, larvae and pupae

Prevention: Thorough cleaning of storage and fabrication rooms, cooling, pest-proof storage

Early detection: Monitoring traps (female sexual pheromone) and UV light traps

Control: Removal of the infested products; sieving, use of impact mills (entoleters), heat treatment in empty rooms; freezing; low oxygen atmospheres at elevated temperature, authorized plant protection products (refer to database: www.bvl.bund.de)