

# Common wood boring beetles of the home, their detection and control.

Vernard Lewis  
UC Berkeley

Invertebrate Pests Identification &  
Management

Catheys Valley, CA, Dec. 14, 2012

# Beetle infested wood



# Typical Damage

Damage by the California Deathwatch Beetle,  
*Hemicoelus gibbicollis* (LeConte)

Pine

Maple

Bamboo

Douglas fir



# POWDERPOST BEETLES

- Anobiidae      Deathwatch Beetle
- Lyctidae      True Powderpost Beetle
- Bostrichidae      False Powderpost Beetle

# Deathwatch Beetle



## *Hemicoelus gibbicollis*

- head covered by hood shaped pronotum
- 11 segmented antennae, 3 segmented club
- cylindrical body
- small brown or black beetle
- distinct shaped hood



# FRASS



# Be careful with drugstore and cigarette beetles





# C-shaped larva

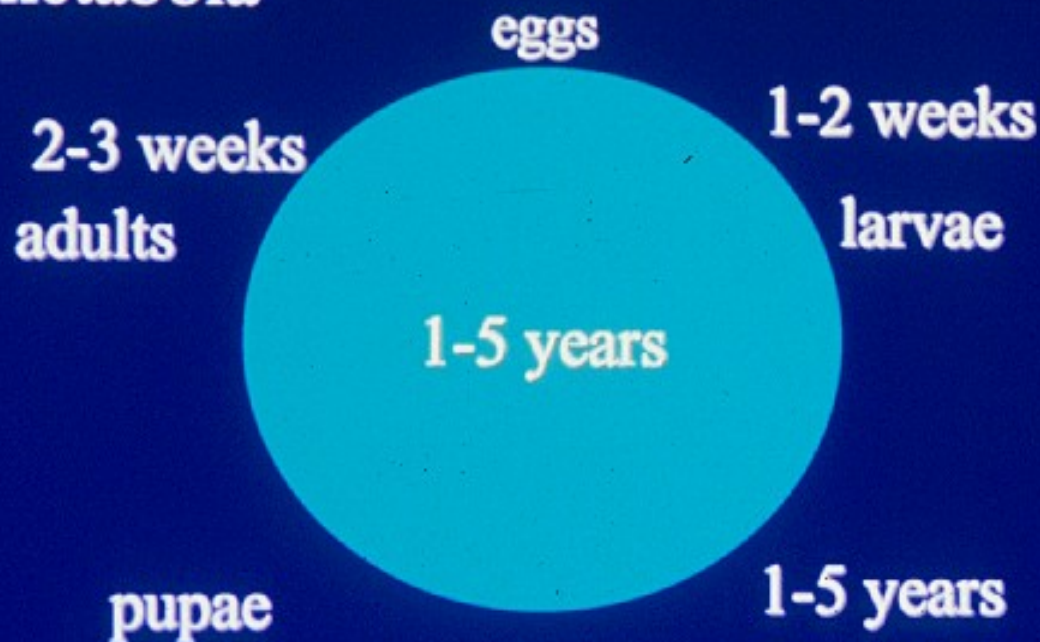


# Geographic Distribution of the California Deathwatch Beetle, *Hemicoelus gibbicollis* in Western North America



# Lifecycle of wood-destroying beetles

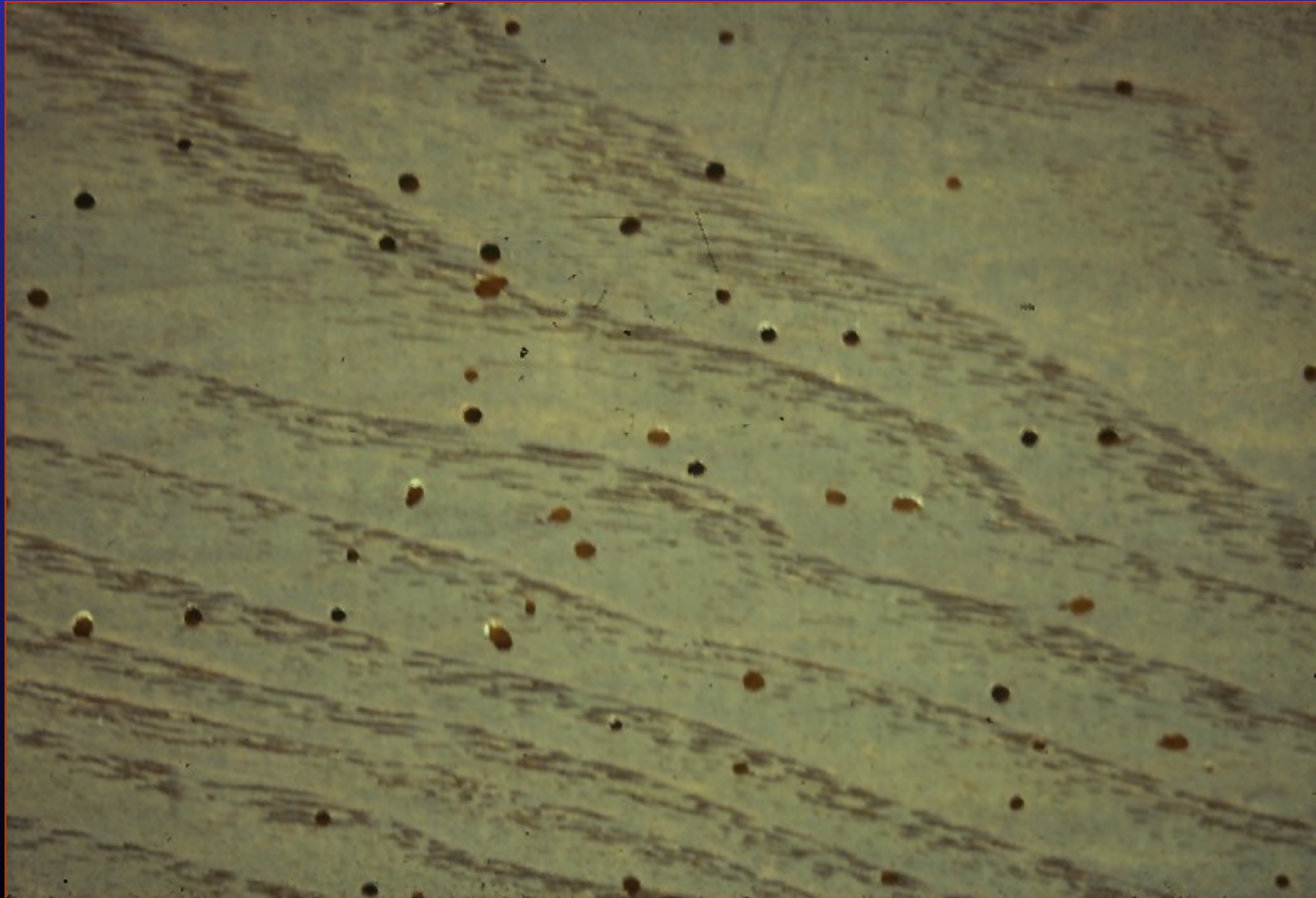
- Holometabola



# Common in Nature

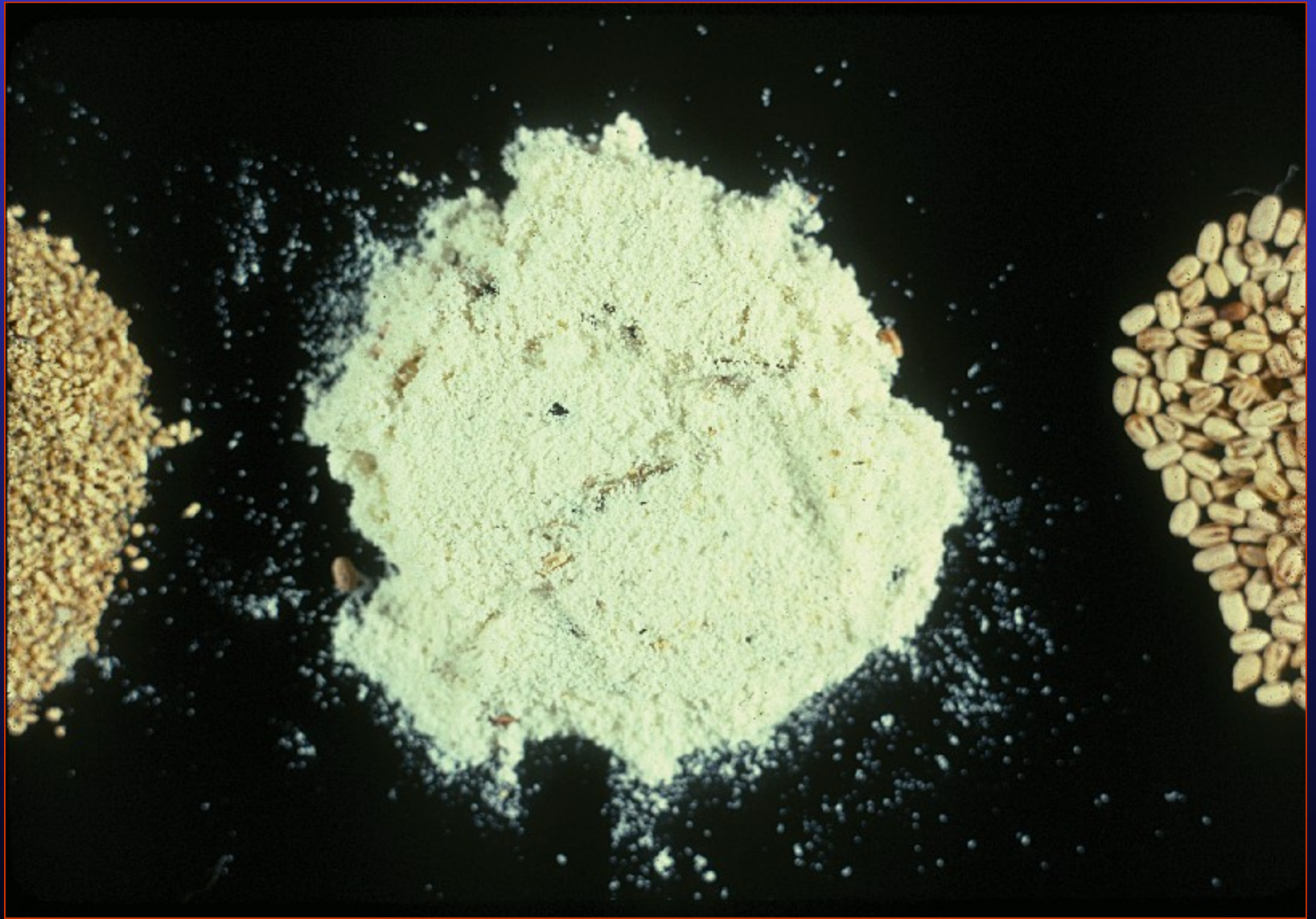


# True Powderpost Beetles









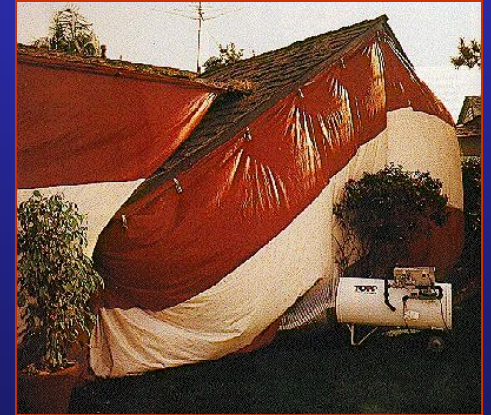


# TRUE POWDERPOST BEETLES

## FAMILY LYCTICIDAE

- Six species are common pests in the United States
- Millions of dollars of damage every year
- Second only to termites in destructiveness to wood and wood products
- Confine attacks to large-pore hardwoods such as oak, ash, and even bamboo

# Control



# IPM of Wood-destroying Beetles

- Environmental control
- Prevention/ sanitation
- Anticipation
- Monitoring
- Multifaceted control
- Education/ research
- Follow up

# Other Troublesome Beetles

# Small holes and stain



# Bark Beetles



# Structural 2 by 4



Close up



# Beasts in firewood!



# Flatheaded Borers



## **Golden buprestid**



**Sometimes in homes  
and telephone poles**

# Longhorn Beetles



**Roundheaded  
borers**



# FALSE POWDERPOST BEETLES – FAMILY BOSTRICHIDAE

- Prepare egg tunnels
- Female lays eggs in pores bisected by tunnels
- Tunnels vary greatly in size and shape
- Breed in either or both hardwoods & softwoods

## Leadcable borer

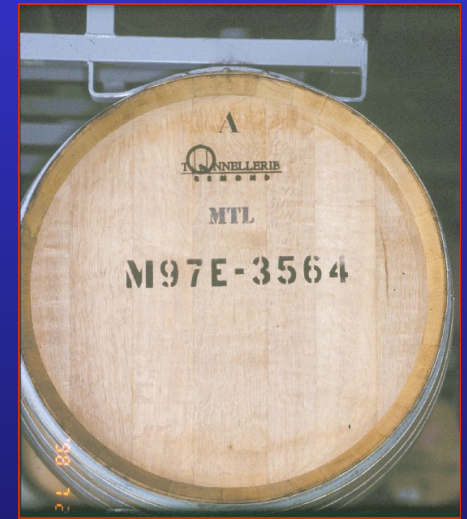


Oregon and  
California



## Leadcable borer damage





**Leadcable borer in wine barrels**



# Useful websites

UC Berkeley Urban Pest Management

<http://nature.berkeley.edu/upmc>

UC Davis Pest Notes

<http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/menu.homegarden.html>

Thank You!