

Boros schneideri

Description: *Boros schneideri* (Panzer) is a dark brown beetle 11 to 14 mm in length. Its larvae are large and reach the length of almost 3 cm. The larvae are flattened in shape and pale in colour. The terminal appendices of the larva are shaped like a crown.

Life cycle: *Boros schneideri* lays its eggs under the bark of dead pine trees in spring. Larval development takes at least two years. Adults appear from their cocoons in autumn and reproduce after winter.

Food: Fungi living on decaying wood.

Tree species: Pine.

Decaying wood type: Pine snags. Trunks of trees that have died more than a year ago, preferably more than 15 cm in diameter with the bark loosely attached or partly fallen off. The species does not attack living trees or damage timber.

Habitats: Low-humic pine forests and pine mires. Mainly old-growth forests but also forest fire sites.

Distribution: *Boros schneideri* is a species of deciduous and boreal zones. Occurs as a rare species in eastern parts of Finland from North Karelia to Kuusamo and on a few sites in Central Finland.

Status: Vulnerable.

Status under legislation: A species under strict protection, listed in EU Habitats Directive Annex II.



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Beetles LIFE

Recommendations for habitat management on forestry land

- Saving pine snags (with a diameter of at least 15 cm at chest height) in all types of felling. The pines to be preserved can be recently dead (red or yellow-brown needles) or dead for more than a year. However, they should retain their bark in order to benefit *Boros schneideri*. Under the Forest Damages Prevention Act, at most 20 cubic metres per hectare of damaged pines with a butt diameter of over 10 cm may be left in the forest.
- Saving fairly sturdy pines in retention tree groups to produce decaying wood at a later stage. In earlier stages of forest management, the sites of retention tree groups can be planned in different protection zones, ecotones and humid depressions, or on rocky sites or near crags. Special trees, in particular, should be saved.
- Prescribed burning of retention tree groups that contain sturdy pines produce decaying and scorched wood needed by *Boros schneideri* and many other insects that are becoming rare.



Boros schneideri larvae are flat and have chitinised terminal appendices shaped like a crown in the end segment. (Photo Mervi Laaksonen/Metsähallitus)

Boros schneideri lives on pine snags. (Photo Mervi Laaksonen/Metsähallitus)



Further information:

Mannerkoski, I. 2001. *Boros schneideri* (Panzer) – lahokapo, smal skuggbagge. – In: Ilmonen, J., Rytteri, T., & Alanen, A. (eds.), Luontodirektiivin kasvit ja selkärangattomat eläimet. Suomen Natura 2000-ehdotuksen luonnontieteellinen arviointi. Suomen ympäristö 510, Finnish Environment Institute, Helsinki, pp. 125–127.