CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD & AGRICULTURE

California Pest Rating Proposal

Trichoferus campestris (Faldermann): velvet longhorn beetle

Coleoptera: Cerambycidae

Current Rating: B

Proposed Rating: C

Comment Period: 05/27/2026 through 07/11/2026

Initiating Event:

Trichoferus campestris is currently B-rated. It is established in California. Its distribution in California appears to have expanded, and no reports of impacts in the state have been received or found. Therefore, it is necessary to re-evaluate the rating.

History & Status:

Background: Adult *Trichoferus campestris* are slender beetles approximately ¾ inch in length and brown in color. In Utah, they are active (flying) June to August (PPQ, 2019). California detections of adult beetles occurred in June and July. The eggs are laid under bark of trees and the larvae tunnel into and feed on the cambium and xylem. Development requires one to two years. Symptoms of larval feeding in trees are reported to include yellowing or thinning of the canopy. Although this species is not reported to rapidly kill trees, it may impact fruit yield and the life of the tree (Carroll and Parker, 2020; Spears and Ramirez, 2014).

Hosts of *T. campestris* include: Anacardiaceae: *Rhus* (sumac); Betulaceae: *Alnus* (alder), *Betula* (birch); Cornaceae: *Cornus* (dogwood); Cupressaceae: *Chamaecyparis* (cypress); Fabaceae: *Robinia* (locust); Fagaceae: *Fagus* (beech), *Quercus* (oak); Juglandaceae: *Carya* (hickory), *Juglans* (walnut); Moraceae: *Morus* (mulberry); Oleaceae: *Fraxinus* (ash); Pinaceae: *Abies* (fir), *Pinus* (pine); Rosaceae:

Malus spp. (apple, crabapple), *Prunus* spp. (cherry, peach), *Sorbus* (mountain ash); Salicaceae: *Salix* (willow); Sapindaceae: *Acer* (maple); Ulmaceae: *Ulmus* (elm), *Zelkova*; Vitaceae: *Vitis* (grape) (Iwata and Yamada, 1990; Rodman et al., 2019). These hosts include reports of cut, dry wood that was infested; *T. campestris* is a pest of dry timber (Iwata and Yamada, 1990). Live peach and cherry trees were reported to be infested in Utah. However, these trees may have been old and/or stressed (PPQ, 2019). Maple (*Acer platanoides*) trees infested by *T. campestris* in Canada were found to be suffering from a fungal infection, which may have enabled the beetles to infest the trees (Bullas-Appleton et al., 2013). It is not clear if *T. campestris* is able to attack healthy, unstressed trees and there does not appear to be evidence of it having a significant economic impact anywhere.

Trichoferus campestris has been known to be present in California since at least 2020, and it appears to be present in at least 12 counties (three of these counties are represented by official samples) in the state, including counties with significant stone fruit orchard acreage. No reports of damage caused by this beetle in California have been found or received.

Worldwide Distribution: *Trichoferus campestris* is native to Asia, including Japan, Korea, China, and countries of Central Asia. It has spread to Eastern Europe including Hungary, Canada, and the United States, where it is reported to be established in Illinois, Minnesota, New York, Ohio, Utah, and Wisconsin (Bullas-Appleton et al., 2013; Dascălu et al., 2013; Hegyessy and Kutasi, 2010; Minnesota Department of Agriculture; Pest Tracker; Spears and Ramirez, 2014; Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection, 2020).

Official Control: *Trichoferus campestris* is considered reportable by the United States Department of Agriculture (U.S. regulated plant pest table). It is a quarantine pest in Morocco and Canada and is on the A1 list in Turkey and on the A2 list in the EPPO (EPPO).

California Distribution: *Trichoferus campestris* was trapped (black cross-vane panel trap with *Trichoferus campestris* lure) in a pistachio orchard in Fresno County and a plum orchard in Tulare County in July 2020 (California Department of Food and Agriculture). These official detections were

prompted by earlier (June 2020) detections in the same areas by UCNR specialist Dr. Houston Wilson in the process of his investigation of reports of the pest by the public. Traps with ethanol lure, which is also known to attract this beetle, were last placed in the area in 2014, suggesting the beetle was introduced between then and 2020. *Trichoferus campestris* was trapped at a landfill in Madera County in 2025. There are research-grade reports of *T. campestris* from Kern, Los Angeles, Nevada, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, Stanislaus, Tehama, and Yuba counties on the web site iNaturalist.

California Interceptions: *Trichoferus campestris* is occasionally intercepted. For example, it was found in a bottle of wine that was bottled in San Luis Obispo County in 2018, in firewood from Utah in 2016, and in a wood pallet from China in 1997 (California Department of Food and Agriculture).

The risk *Trichoferus campestris* poses to California is evaluated below.

Consequences of Introduction:

1) **Climate/Host Interaction:** *Trichoferus campestris* is polyphagous. It is already established in the state and appears to be present in at least 12 counties. Much of California is likely suitable for this species, except for the desert and high mountain areas. Therefore, it receives a **High (3)** in this category.

   – Low (1) Not likely to establish in California; or likely to establish in very limited areas.

   – Medium (2) may be able to establish in a larger but limited part of California.

   – High (3) likely to establish a widespread distribution in California.

2) **Known Pest Host Range:** *Trichoferus campestris* is reported to feed on trees and vines in at least 15 families. Therefore, it receives a **High (3)** in this category.

   – Low (1) has a very limited host range.

– Medium (2) has a moderate host range.

– High (3) has a wide host range.

3) **Pest Reproductive and Dispersal Potential:** *Trichoferus campestris* can be spread by movement of infested wood. The adults can fly. Therefore, it receives a **Medium (2)** in this category.

– Low (1) does not have high reproductive or dispersal potential.

– Medium (2) has either high reproductive or dispersal potential.

– High (3) has both high reproduction and dispersal potential.

4) **Economic Impact**. *Trichoferus campestris* is a pest of dry timber. In addition, it infests live peach and cherry trees in Utah. There is uncertainty regarding the importance of stress, infection, or age of the tree in possibly facilitating these infestations. This beetle has not been reported to cause impacts on trees in California. Therefore, it receives a **Medium (2)** in this category.

Economic Impact: A, B

A. The pest could lower crop yield.

B. The pest could lower crop value (includes increasing crop production costs).

C. The pest could trigger the loss of markets (includes quarantines).

D. The pest could negatively change normal cultural practices.

E. The pest can vector, or is vectored, by another pestiferous organism.

F. The organism is injurious or poisonous to agriculturally important animals.

G. The organism can interfere with the delivery or supply of water for agricultural uses.

Economic Impact Score: Medium

– Low (1) causes 0 or 1 of these impacts.

– Medium (2) causes 2 of these impacts.

– High (3) causes 3 or more of these impacts.

5) **Environmental Impact**. *Trichoferus campestris* attacks a wide variety of trees and it may impact native species. Infestations may trigger treatments. Therefore, *T. campestris* receives a **High (3)** in this category.

Environmental Impact: A, D

A. The pest could have a significant environmental impact such as lowering biodiversity, disrupting natural communities, or changing ecosystem processes.

B. The pest could directly affect threatened or endangered species.

C. The pest could impact threatened or endangered species by disrupting critical habitats.

D. The pest could trigger additional official or private treatment programs.

E. The pest significantly impacts cultural practices, home/urban gardening or ornamental plantings.

Environmental Impact Score: High (3)

– Low (1) causes none of the above to occur.

– Medium (2) causes one of the above to occur.

– High (3) causes two or more of the above to occur.

Consequences of Introduction to California for *Trichoferus campestris*: High (13)

Add up the total score and include it here.

–Low = 5-8 points

–Medium = 9-12 points

–High = 13-15 points

6) **Post Entry Distribution and Survey Information:** Based on official samples, *T. campestris* is established in Fresno, Madera, and Tulare counties. Based on citizen scientist reports, it appears

to be present in at least nine additional counties in California. It receives a **Medium (-2)** in this category.

–Not established (0) Pest never detected in California, or known only from incursions.

–Low (-1) Pest has a localized distribution in California, or is established in one suitable climate/host area (region).

–Medium (-2) Pest is widespread in California but not fully established in the endangered area, or pest established in two contiguous suitable climate/host areas.

–High (-3) Pest has fully established in the endangered area, or pest is reported in more than two contiguous or non-contiguous suitable climate/host areas.

Final Score:

7) The final score is the consequences of introduction score minus the post entry distribution and survey information score: Medium (11)

Uncertainty:

The greatest uncertainty regarding this proposal is that regarding the ability of *T. campestris* to attack healthy trees, and also what degree and type of stress (e.g., drought) might be sufficient to make trees vulnerable to attack by this beetle in California. For example, whether abnormally hot and dry conditions cause this insect to become a significant pest.

Conclusion and Rating Justification:

Trichoferus campestris is a polyphagous wood-boring beetle reported to infest living trees. However, it is established in California, and although it appears to be fairly widespread, it does not appear to be having impacts in the state. For these reasons, a “C” rating is justified.

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Responsible Party:

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***Comment Period: 05/27/2026 through 07/11/2026**

***NOTE:**

You must be registered and logged in to post a comment. If you have registered and have not received the registration confirmation, please contact us at permits[@]cdfa.ca.gov.

Comment Format:

- Comments should refer to the appropriate California Pest Rating Proposal Form subsection(s) being commented on, as shown below.

Example Comment:
Consequences of Introduction: 1. Climate/Host Interaction: [Your comment that relates to "Climate/Host Interaction" here.]

- Posted comments will not be able to be viewed immediately.
- Comments may not be posted if they:

Contain inappropriate language which is not germane to the pest rating proposal;

Contains defamatory, false, inaccurate, abusive, obscene, pornographic, sexually oriented, threatening, racially offensive, discriminatory or illegal material;

Violates agency regulations prohibiting sexual harassment or other forms of discrimination;

Violates agency regulations prohibiting workplace violence, including threats.

- Comments may be edited prior to posting to ensure they are entirely germane.
- Posted comments shall be those which have been approved in content and posted to the website to be viewed, not just submitted.

Proposed Pest Rating: C