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Newly discovered beetle decimates trees in Tijuana River Valley

September 1, 2016 by [Nancy Aziz](http://www.cw6sandiego.com/bios/Nancy-Aziz) (<http://www.cw6sandiego.com/bios/Nancy-Aziz>)



SAN YSIDRO – A beetle from Southeast Asia has killed more than 140,000 trees in the Tijuana River Valley in a span of just 9 months, according to scientists, who fear the Kurishio Shot Hole Borer could spread to the rest of the state.

“When I look at this I see a disaster. This is devastation I never thought I’d see in my lifetime,” said UC Agriculture and Natural Resources entomologist Dr. John Kabashima as he looked at hundreds of dead trees in the area Thursday.

In pictures taken May of 2015, the area is alive with lush green trees. 9 months later, dead and dying trees are everywhere.



(http://www.cw6sandiego.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/IMG_8266.jpg)
May 2015



(http://www.cw6sandiego.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/IMG_8265-1.jpg)
February 2016

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