The long-horned beetle, *Oberea erythrocephala*, is a stem-borer that prefers riparian areas with trees and only specific biotypes of leafy spurge. The latter preference appears to have limited its population growth.

*Oberea erythrocephala* causes damage in several ways. First, girdling of the stem by the adults preparing to lay eggs generally kills the affected shoots. The stems themselves die as the hatched larva bore their way down to the roots. And finally, feeding by larva in the roots and crown significantly reduces the plant’s root reserves.

Photos by: R.D. Richard (USDA-APHIS)