

Pest Alert



United States
Department of Agriculture
Forest Service
Animal and Plant
Health Inspection Service

NA-PR-01-99

Asian Longhorned Beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*): A New Introduction

The Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) has been discovered attacking trees in the United States. Tunneling by beetle larvae girdles tree stems and branches. Repeated attacks lead to dieback of the tree crown and, eventually, death of the tree. ALB probably travelled to the United States inside solid wood packing material from China. The beetle has been intercepted at ports and found in warehouses throughout the United States.

The insect is a serious pest in China where it kills hardwood trees. In the United States the beetle prefers maple species (*Acer* spp.), including *baccata*, *Norway*, *red*, *silver*, *sugar* and *sycamore* maples. Other known hosts are *horsechestnut*, *black locust*, *elms*, *birches*, *willows*, *poplars* and *green ash*. A complete list of host trees in the United States has not been determined. Currently, the only effective means to eliminate ALB is to remove infested trees and destroy them by chipping or burning. To prevent further spread of the insect, quarantines are established to avoid transporting infested trees and branches from the area. Early detection of infestations and rapid treatment response are crucial to successful eradication of the beetle.

General Information

There is probably one generation of ALB per year. Adult beetles are usually present from May to October, but can be found earlier in spring or later in fall if temperatures are warm. Adults usually stay on the trees from which they emerged or they may disperse short distances to a new host to feed and reproduce. Each female is capable of laying 50 to 70 eggs. The eggs hatch in 10-15 days and the larvae tunnel under the bark and into the wood where they eventually pupate. The adults emerge from pupation sites by boring a tunnel in the wood and creating a round exit hole in the tree.

For more information about Asian longhorned beetle in the United States, visit these U.S. Department of Agriculture web sites:

<http://willow.ncfes.umn.edu/asianbeetle/beetle.htm>

<http://www.aphis.usda.gov/oa/alb/alb.html>

If you suspect an Asian longhorned beetle infestation, please collect an adult beetle in a jar, place the jar in the freezer, and immediately notify any of these officials or offices in your State:

State Department of Agriculture:
State Plant Regulatory Official
State Entomologist
U.S. Department of Agriculture:
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service,
Plant Protection and Quarantine
Forest Service
County Extension Office
State Forester or Department of Natural Resources

or: