



Massachusetts Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) Cooperative Eradication Program M E D I A U P D A T E

OCTOBER 1, 2010

Media Inquires Call: 508-852-8044

KEY MESSAGE: Residents in the ALB regulated areas established within Worcester, Suffolk and Norfolk counties are asked to refrain from moving firewood and wood debris outside the regulated area. Report suspected Asian longhorned beetles to 866-702-9938 (toll-free).

Suffolk and Norfolk Counties

Surveying activities continue throughout the West Roxbury and the Roslindale areas.

- 6 Number of ALB infested trees confirmed (Jamaica Plain, Boston)
- 6 Number of ALB infested trees removed
- 1,243 Number of trees surveyed during this reporting period (9/19/10—9/25/10)
- 30,778 Number of trees surveyed since July 3, 2010
- 9.58 Square-miles under regulation; see “Boston/Brookline Quarantine” map:
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/asian_lhb/alb_maps.shtml

Worcester County

Surveying activities continue throughout the area.

- 18,334 Number of ALB infested trees confirmed (1,498 currently in 2010; 11,723 in 2009; 5,113 in 2008)
Totals per municipality: Worcester (17,774); Holden (55); West Boylston (220); Boylston (267); Shrewsbury (18)
- 18,048 Number of ALB infested trees removed (2,723 currently in 2010; 15,325 in 2009)
- 10,250 Number of ALB high-risk host trees removed in 2009
- 18,520 Number of trees surveyed during this reporting period (9/19/10—9/25/10)
- 567,576 Number of trees surveyed since August 5, 2008
- 94 Square-miles under regulation; see “Worcester County Quarantine” map:
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/asian_lhb/alb_maps.shtml

In the event of inclement weather, surveys may be delayed or cancelled. APHIS and cooperating State inspectors survey for the presence of ALB by examining individual host trees from the ground for signs of beetle damage. Tree climbers also perform searches in canopies of host trees, carefully examining every tree limb and branch for the presence of ALB and damage.

INFORMATION MEETINGS: There are no ALB information meetings planned for the upcoming week.

ONLINE RESOURCES:

- USDA ALB information site: www.BeetleBusters.info
- USDA APHIS ALB information: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/asian_lhb/index.shtml
- USDA Forest Service ALB information: <http://na.fs.fed.us/fhp/alb/>
- Department of Conservation and Recreation: <http://www.mass.gov/dcr/>
- Department of Agricultural Resources’ ALB information: <http://www.mass.gov/agr/alb.htm>

BACKGROUND: The Asian longhorned beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*, ALB) is an invasive pest from Asia that came to the United States concealed in solid wood packing material; pallets, crates and dunnage, used to transport goods from overseas. ALB was first detected in the United States in 1996 in Brooklyn, NY.

The Massachusetts ALB cooperative eradication program is comprised of USDA APHIS, USDA Forest Service, the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources, the City of Worcester; the towns of Holden, West Boylston, Boylston and Shrewsbury; the City of Boston; and the town of Brookline.