



2013 Asian Longhorned Beetle Summary

New York State Department of Agriculture

Division of Plant Industry

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Asian Longhorned Beetle Eradication Highlights

- The New York ALB Program realized its goal of eradicating Asian Longhorned Beetle from Manhattan and Staten Island and accordingly, the quarantine was lifted from both areas on May 14th 2013.
- On July 24, The ALB Program received an e-mail with photo attached of an Asian Longhorned Beetle taken by a North Lindenhurst homeowner. A delimiting survey was initiated and on August 7th, a USDA SITC Officer who was assisting the program found the first infested tree.
- Due to infested trees found in North Lindenhurst, West Babylon, Melville and Farmingdale outside of the current quarantine boundary, the area under quarantine in Central Long Island will be expanded from 23 square miles to 51 square miles.

Asian Longhorned Beetle Delimiting Survey and Detection Response

- As an ongoing response to detection of Asian Longhorned Beetle in New York, the areas under quarantine are surveyed. All properties must be accessed within the quarantine area and any host trees inspected to complete a cycle. The survey protocols require that three negative cycles must occur before an area can be considered free from infestation. In 2013, both ground and climbing staff visited a total of 50,076 properties and inspected 203,346 trees.
- Level 3 Survey – In order to insure no other areas of New York are harboring infestation, inspectors work outside the quarantine boundaries on a regular basis, to target and inspect businesses and areas considered at high risk for infestation. The inspectors visited campgrounds, importers, freight rail lines and industrial parks. They accessed 173 establishments and surveyed 2,728 host trees with no new introductions detected.
- Tree Removal and Detection – During survey around the newly identified area of infestation in Central Long Island, 294 infested trees and 9 trees identified as high risk were found in 2013. NYSDAM's tree removal contractor was able to remove 57 infested and 6 high risk trees by close of 2013. 237 infested and 3 high risk trees were awaiting removal. Since the first detection of ALB in Greenpoint, Brooklyn, a total of 6,353 infested and 12,177 high risk trees have been removed.

Asian Longhorned Beetle Outreach Activities

- The Asian Longhorned Beetle Program continued to place high priority on outreach, education, and training in order to bring awareness and understanding of this destructive pest to the public's attention.
 - 49 outreach events with information booths staffed
 - 1 scheduled compliance training workshop and 33 on-site compliance trainings were provided; 375 individuals and 42 companies/organizations trained.
 - Forest Pest Outreach Survey
Multi State Initiative, NYSDAM's efforts were assisted by County Cornell Cooperative Extensions of Essex and Onondaga Counties, Empire State Forest Products Association and the Catskills Regional Invasive Species Partnership.; Outreach efforts educated public and private individuals and groups on the importance of Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB), Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) and other forest pests of concern to the State

Asian Longhorned Beetle Regulatory Activities

- With the removal of Manhattan and Staten Island from the quarantine area, there are currently 109 square miles quarantined in New York to prevent spread of the Asian Longhorned Beetle. The expansion of the Central Long Island quarantine will add an additional 28 square miles to the regulated areas once enacted.
- In the aftermath of Super Storm Sandy, program inspectors continued to patrol and monitor ALB quarantined areas to insure all ALB regulations were being followed during the extended clean-up and recovery activities. Continuous oversight was maintained of local municipalities within ALB quarantine areas verifying compliance with ALB regulations. Communication channels were maintained with FEMA, Army Corps of Engineers, NYC Office of Emergency Management, Nassau and Suffolk Counties, as well as local towns and villages affected by the storm.
- In order to effectively manage and control the movement of wood and insure proper disposal and destruction of host material, the program spends numerous hours training and educating the green industry professionals. Once trained and willing to cooperate with the regulations, the companies are issued a compliance agreement where they will inspect all host wood for infestation, and properly dispose of it in an approved manner.
 - **Compliance Agreements**
1,009 General Compliance Agreements/16 Nursery-Garden Center Agreements
 - **Inspections**
3,493 site inspections/1,198 vehicle inspections
35 Regulatory Material Certificates issued for firewood inspections
63 Limited Permits issued to permit controlled movement
 - **Regulatory Corrective Actions**
The Asian Longhorned Beetle Program makes every effort to properly educate tree companies, waste haulers, nursery/garden centers, and landscapers about the proper handling of host material. In order to keep host material from moving out of the quarantined areas, inspectors often issue quarantine orders to ensure proper disposal. There were 25 quarantine orders issued in 2013. However, there are instances where regulated host material is moved out of the quarantine area without authorization. When this occurs violations are issued with warning letters or fines recommended. There were four violations issued in 2013.

Asian Longhorned Beetle Research Activities

Research efforts continue in New York, Massachusetts and Ohio, some conducted over several years. Much of the research has had a positive impact on ALB program activities and has assisted program managers in developing better survey and treatment methods.

- Dr. Phil Lewis, USDA Center for Plant Health Science and Technology (CPHST), is continuing pesticide trials that are in the third and final year. He is analyzing soil and trunk treatments administered in the Fall vs. Spring to assess residue levels in the treated trees. CPHST is comparing timing of soil and trunk injection applications made to four common host tree species. Imidacloprid and dinotefuran applications are also being compared. Two year results are in and final leaf sample collections have been completed. Results so far indicate that residues from fall treatments are comparable to spring treatments (the latter being the current standard). It is the expectation that these findings will allow for a greater window in which to treat trees. Additionally, a new alternative to Imidacloprid is being tested in China, and preliminary results (LC₅₀ and mortality data) indicate that the candidate chemical is promising.
- Analysis of ALB haplotypes is being expanded from the standard “bar-coding” sequence of ca. 450 base pairs up to ca. 1600 base pairs using primers developed by Maureen Carter. This method should provide better discrimination among ALB from different geographic populations in North America and Asia.
Molecular analyses are being performed on newly collected ALB from Ohio and NY, as well as historic samples. Beetles from the new NY find show a haplotype that was previously found in Amityville, though the haplotype was also in Chicago. Additional findings will be reported as samples are processed.