

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2013-06
March 14, 2013

SUBJECT: APHIS Eradicates the Asian Longhorned Beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*) from Middlesex and Union Counties, New Jersey

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

Effective immediately, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is declaring eradication of the Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) in Middlesex and Union Counties, New Jersey, thereby releasing them from quarantine. Since 2004, APHIS has worked with its State partners to complete extensive survey, control, and regulatory activities in these areas to eradicate ALB from New Jersey.

APHIS determined that these counties can be removed from quarantine after program efforts resulted in three years of negative surveys of host plants within the regulated areas. The attached Federal Order immediately rescinds the regulated area in Middlesex and Union Counties, New Jersey, for ALB. As a result of this action, there are no remaining ALB regulated areas in New Jersey.

ALB is a destructive wood-boring pest of maple and other hardwoods. ALB was first discovered in the United States in Brooklyn, New York, in August 1996. Since then, the beetle has been found in Chicago, Illinois; Hudson, Middlesex, and Union Counties in New Jersey; Worcester and Suffolk Counties in Massachusetts; and most recently in Clermont County, Ohio. In 2008, ALB was declared eradicated in Chicago, Illinois, and Hudson County, New Jersey.

For more information about APHIS' ALB Eradication Program, you may contact Robyn Rose, National Program Manager, at (301) 851-2283.

/s/ Osama El-Lissy for

Rebecca A. Bech
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine

Attachment (1)