

***Sirex noctilio* Program Regulatory Issues Update**

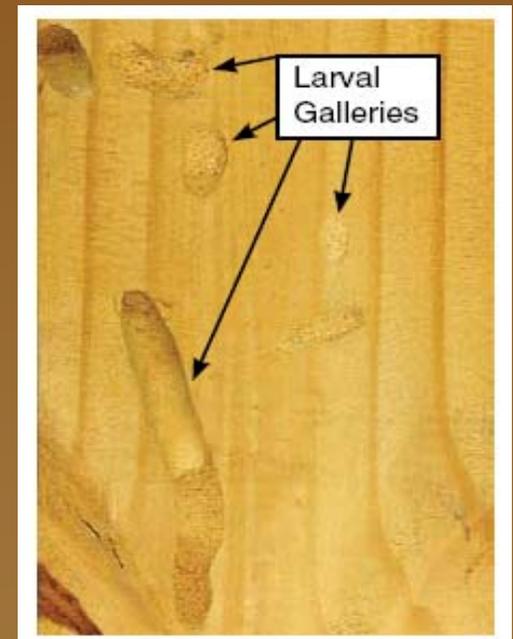


Photo by: David Lance, USDA

***Sirex noctilio*
Program Update
and
Industry Outreach
Meeting**

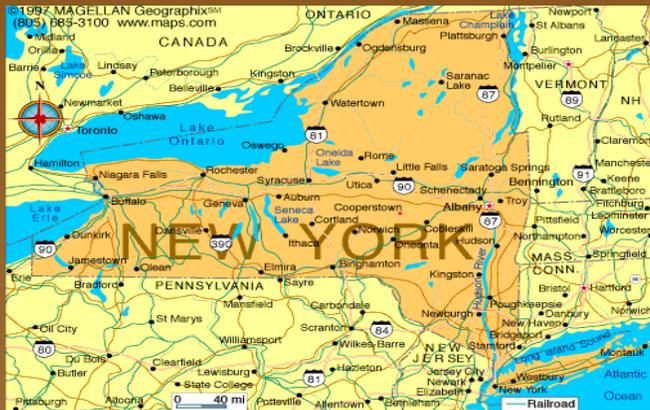
**Annapolis, MD
January 9, 2007**

Why is the U.S. concerned about the Regulatory Status of *Sirex noctilio*?



Photos by Dennis Haugen, U.S. Forest Service

Overview of U.S. Detections of *Sirex noctilio*



New York

- 2004 – 1 County
- 2005 – 4 Counties
- 2006 – 20 Counties



Pennsylvania

- 2006 – 2 Counties

Potential Impact of *Sirex noctilio* to New York State

- Potential for severe economic impact to forest products industry and rural economy (NYSDEC).
- 800-900 MMbf annual timber harvest.
- 11% Eastern white pine; 4% Red pine; Pulp
- Combined annual income of \$12 million
- \$40 million direct economic activity for wood products manufacturing industry.
- Millions of dollars more of direct and indirect economic activity (loggers, truckers, services).

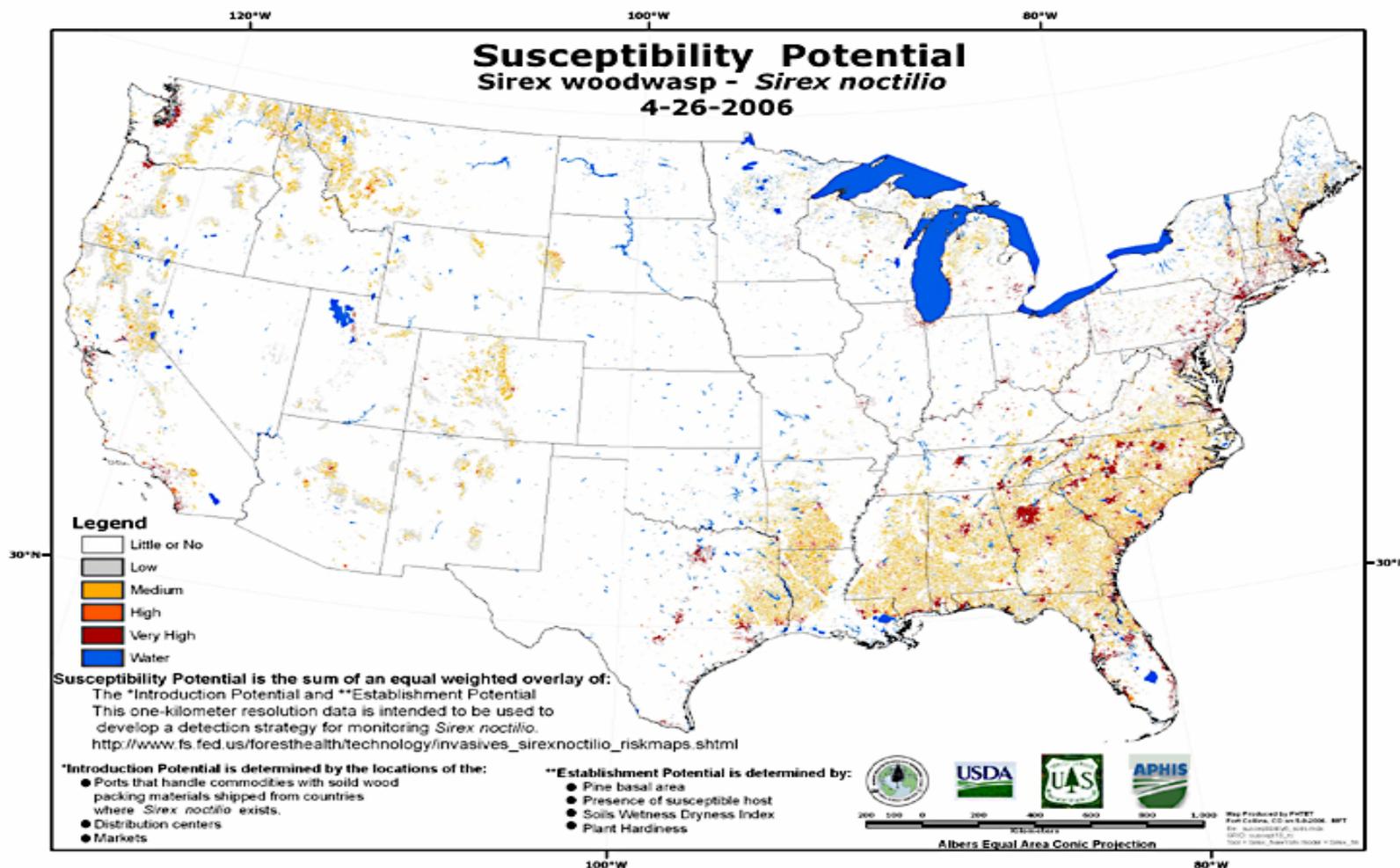


Photo by: Susan Ellis, USDA

Potential Impact of *Sirex noctilio* to New York State

- In-state consumption of pine harvest.
- Robust in-state industry (lumber, value-added products, such as log homes telephone poles, furniture, millwork, flooring).
- US interstate exports.
- International exports.
- Social impact from loss of pine trees.

Plant Protection and Quarantine



Potential Impact of *Sirex noctilio* on Pines in North America

- There has been significant mortality of North American pines planted in other countries infested with this woodwasp.
- Although the full impact to North American forests is not fully known, there is concern that it could cause mortality and economic loss.



Potential Impact of *Sirex noctilio* on Pines in the Southeastern U.S.

Economic Analysis by the U.S. Forest Service

- Assumed that *S. noctilio* would spread 25 miles/year and take 55 years to infest the entire southeastern U.S.
- Current estimate of sawtimber and pulpwood values were used, and all future values were discounted to the present using a 4% discount rate.

Potential Impact of *Sirex noctilio* on Pines in the Southeastern U.S.

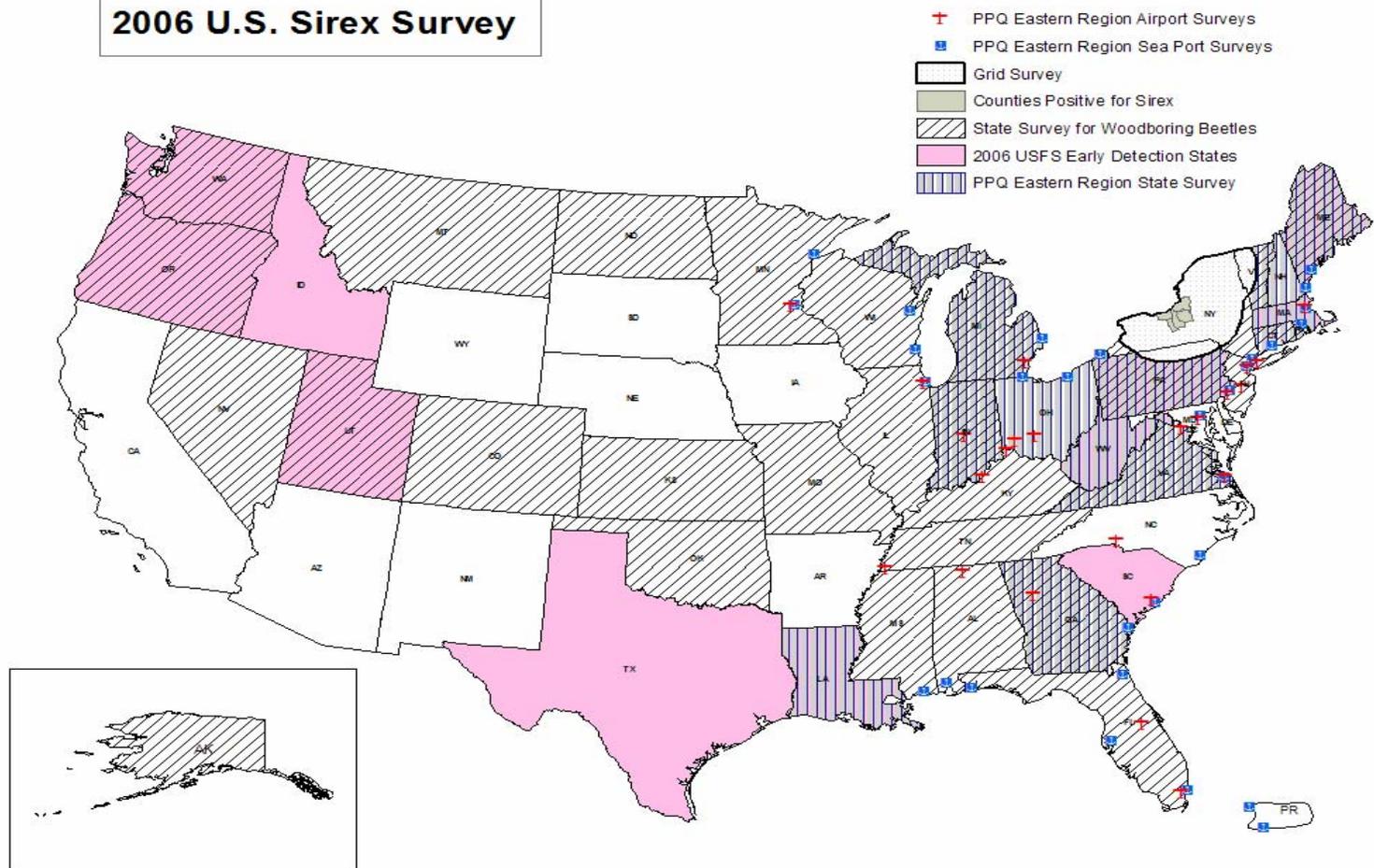
- At a 10% mortality threshold, there would be 224 million sq. ft. lost, valued at US\$1.9 billion dollars.
- In the total infested area, 360 million sq ft and US\$2.9 billion would be lost.
- If mortality reached 50%, losses would reach 1.4 billion sq. ft. and US\$11 billion lost in the South, and 2.1 billion sq. ft. and US\$17 billion in the infested area.

***Sirex* Science Panel Convened in January 2006**

Conclusions/Recommendations

- Movement of infested materials may create infestations in areas remote from know impacted areas.
- Movement of logs and green lumber from infested areas should be regulated. These products go for such uses as utility poles, pulp, and firewood.
- Chipped wood is also a concern, depending on chip size and how they are processed.
- Compliance agreements can be used to move products when emergence of adults is not a risk.

2006 U.S. Sirex Survey



Pest Risk Assessment

PRA requested by USDA-APHIS-PPQ

Emergency and Domestic Programs Staff

Lead on project: USDA-APHIS-PPQ

Center for Plant Health Science and Technology

Completed August 1, 2006

Conclusions/Recommendations:

“It is necessary to prevent the artificial spread of *S. noctilio* in potentially infested materials through the treatment and regulated movement of materials.”

(See APHIS *Sirex* webpage for PRA document)

Federal Domestic Quarantine Order for *Sirex noctilio*

Spring 2006: Draft Domestic Federal Order and
Workplan for Federal Interim Rule Prepared

Summer 2006: Draft Federal Order sent to New York
and Pennsylvania for comment

Fall 2006: Consultation with National Plant Board,
USDA Office of General Council, USDA-APHIS-
PPQ Administrator and Deputy Administrators,
CPHST, Environmental Services, Emergency and
Domestic Programs, Regulatory Coordination and
Writing Staffs

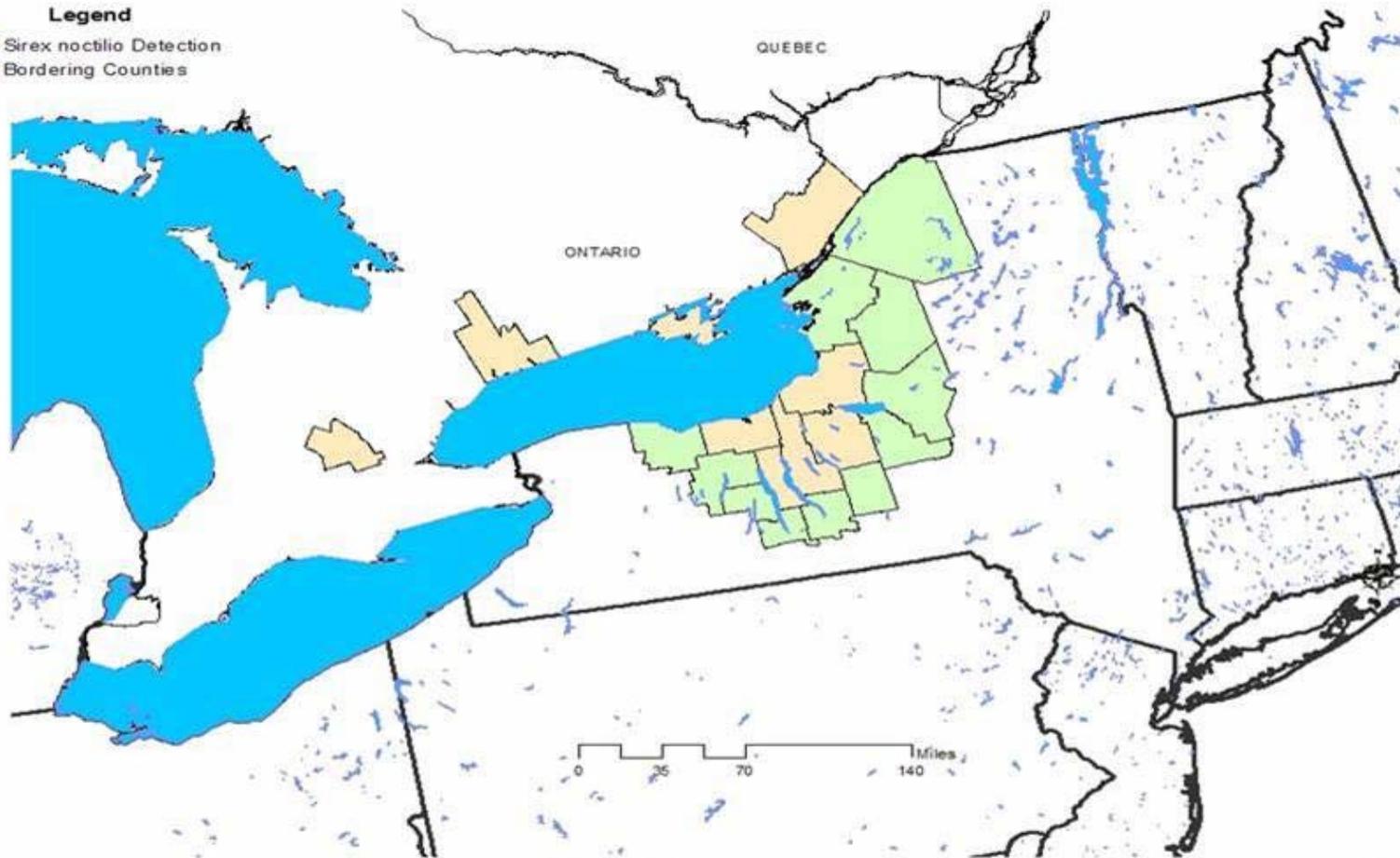
Federal Domestic Quarantine Order

Key Issues:

- Appropriate use of Federal Orders
 - OGC and PARC support limited use of FO's
- Area to quarantine based on Survey Results
- Exploring all available Funding mechanisms

Plant Protection and Quarantine

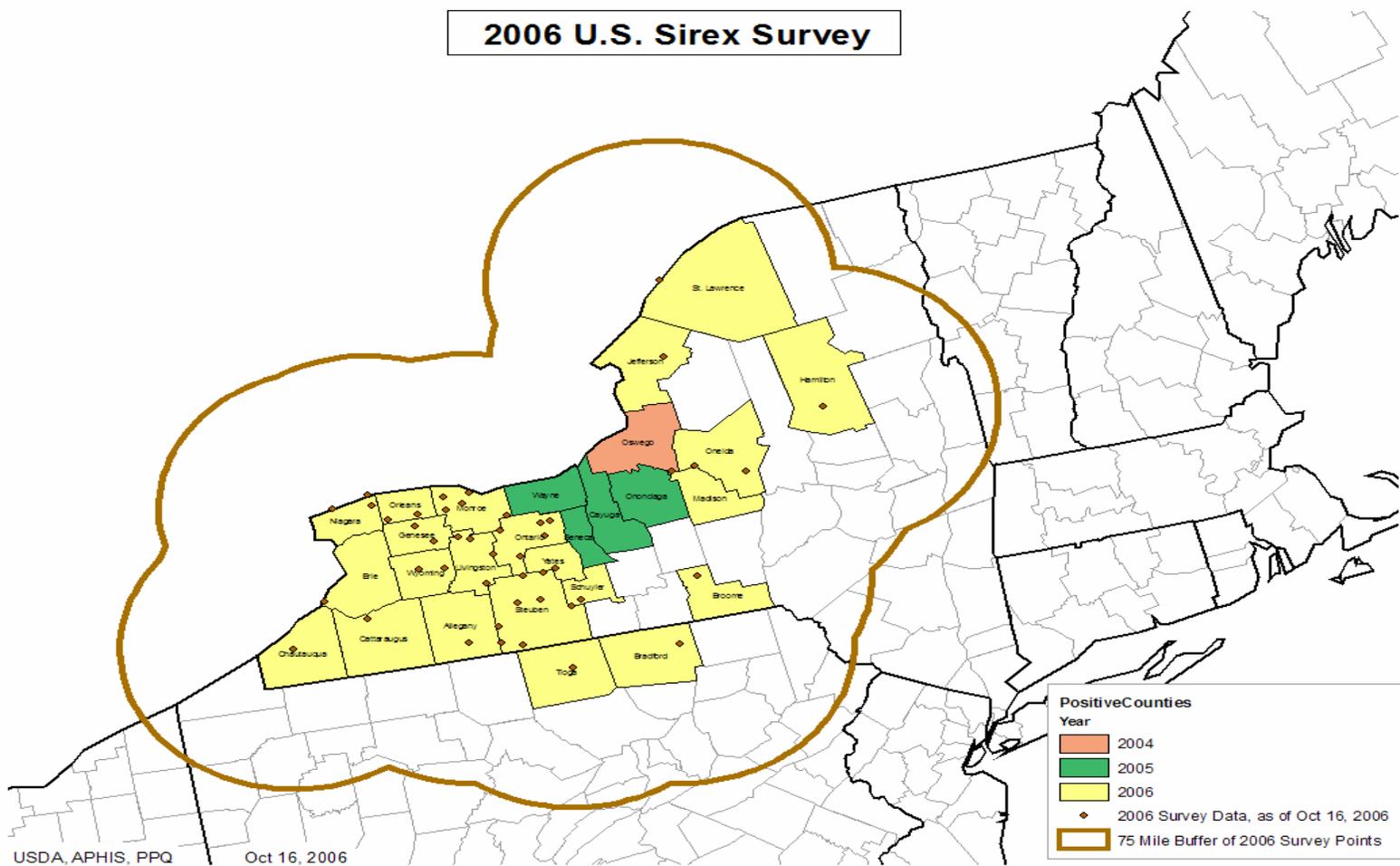
- Legend**
-  Sirex noctilio Detection
 -  Bordering Counties



1:4,094,000

Source: NAPPO, 2006; APHIS, 2005
Created By: Dan Borchert
USDA-APHIS-PPQ-CPHST-PERAL
North American Albers Equal Area Conic
April 28, 2006

2006 U.S. Sirex Survey



Proposed Regulated Articles

Pine (*Pinus* sp.) Commodities including:

- * **Untreated - Logs, Log home components, Kit homes, Lumber, Sawn wood, Round wood, Non-manufactured wood products**
- * **Untreated - Wood Packaging, Pallets, Loose wood packing**
- * **Untreated Firewood**
- * **Fines, Wood Chips, Mulch, Wood waste, Pulpwood, etc. (components \geq 5/8 inch-diameter thickness)**
- * **Nursery Stock (trunks \geq 4 inches at soil line)**

Proposed Regulated Articles (cont.)

Pine (*Pinus* sp.) Commodities including:

- * **Dug Christmas trees (large B&B, \geq 4 inch at soil line)**
- * **Cut Christmas trees (not grown in a nursery)**
- * **Garlands, Greenery, Wreaths, Fresh Foliage, Filler**
(with twigs, stems, and branches \geq 1 inch in diameter)
- * **Branches and Logging Debris (\geq 1 inch in diameter)**
- * **Untreated Decorative Items (Chain-saw art)**
- * **Untreated Log Furniture**
- * **Untreated Stumps**

Conditions of Movement/Regulatory Treatments for *Sirex* Host Commodities

- **Conditions of Movement**
 - Compliance Agreements
 - Black out times for movement
- **Regulatory Treatments**
 - Chipping to $\leq 5/8$ inch thickness
 - Heat treatment/Kiln Drying
 - Methyl Bromide fumigation

Quarantine alone is not the answer!

- Silvicultural practices
- Education & Outreach
 - Meetings
 - Websites
 - Pest Alerts
- Investigate Biological Control Options



Photo by: Kent Loeffler,
Cornell University

Proposed Biological Control Program

Environmental Assessment for *Sirex* Control Program is in Preparation by APHIS

Key Component = Biological Control Agent *Sirex* nematode *Beddingia siricidicola*

Fall 2006

Workplan for “controlled release” of the nematode in NY submitted by USDA-APHIS-PPQ CPHST Scientists.

Federal and NY State Permits issued; NEPA Documentation

USDA and NY State Cooperative controlled release in November 2006.

Fall 2007

Continue Field BC Studies, Pending Completed EA



Mass production of *Sirex* Biological Control Nematode in Australia.
Photo by Dennis Haugen.

Upcoming critical issues for *Sirex* Program

- Completion of Environmental Assessment for proposed *Sirex* Biological Control Program
- *Sirex* Science Panel Meeting (December 2006)
 - Report in Preparation
- Continue Quarantine Discussions
- Secure Source of Short and Long Term Funding
- Plan for 2007 Cooperative Survey
 - Expand to cover Great Lakes States
 - CAPS, USFS, Port Surveys

Thank you for your attention!

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