

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2008-72
November 10, 2008

SUBJECT: Expansion of the Quarantine Area in Worcester County, Massachusetts, for Asian Longhorned Beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*)

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is expanding the Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) quarantine area to include additional portions of Worcester County, Massachusetts. The expanded ALB-quarantine area in Worcester includes an additional 29-square miles, now totaling 62-square miles. The expanded quarantine area is necessary in order to restrict the movement of ALB-host material. This action is effective immediately and attached is the Federal Domestic Quarantine Order describing the expanded quarantine area, along with the associated reference to the Code of Federal Regulations, listing the provisions for the movement of ALB-host material.

On August 5, 2008, APHIS confirmed the first State identification of ALB in Worcester County, Massachusetts. On September 4, 2008, a Federal Order was issued, which quarantined 33-square miles of Worcester County, Massachusetts for ALB. Approximately 3,147 infested trees have been detected and APHIS is working cooperatively with the State and affected municipalities to eradicate the pest through the removal and treatment of infested trees. APHIS, in conjunction with the State, is providing ALB outreach material to inform the public of this destructive pest. APHIS will continue to work with the State and municipalities to survey for ALB and expand the quarantine area as necessary to restrict the movement and spread of ALB.

ALB is a destructive wood-boring pest of maple and other hardwoods. This pest was first discovered in the United States in Brooklyn, New York, in August 1996. ALB was later detected in Chicago, Illinois, in July 1998. In October 2002, the beetle was found in Hudson County, New Jersey, and then in Middlesex and Union Counties, New Jersey, in August 2004. After 4 years of negative surveys, ALB was recently declared eradicated in Chicago, Illinois, and Hudson County, New Jersey.

For more information concerning APHIS' ALB Eradication Program and the recent detections in Massachusetts, you may contact Christine Markham, APHIS' National ALB Program Director, at Area Code (919) 855-7328 or Julie Twardowski, APHIS' National ALB Program Coordinator, at Area Code (301) 734-5332.

/s/ John H. Payne /for
Rebecca A. Bech
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine

Attachment: Federal Order

FEDERAL ORDER

Domestic Quarantine of a Portion of Worcester County, Massachusetts, for Asian Longhorned Beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*)

This Federal Order is issued under the regulatory authority provided by the Plant Protection Act of June 20, 2000, as amended, Section 412(a), 7 U.S.C. 7712(a), which authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to prohibit or restrict the movement in interstate commerce of any plant, plant part, or article, if the Secretary determines the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the dissemination of a plant pest within the United States and is likewise issued pursuant to the regulations promulgated under the Plant Protection Act found at 7 CFR 301.51.

This Federal Order quarantines, effective immediately, a portion of Worcester County, Massachusetts, for Asian longhorned beetle (ALB), *Anoplophora glabripennis*. This action is in response to a confirmed detection of ALB in this area of Massachusetts. Thus, the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has determined that it is necessary to quarantine this area in order to prevent the spread of ALB. Therefore, effective immediately, all interstate movement of ALB regulated articles from the area within the boundaries listed below must be done in accordance with the regulations promulgated pursuant to the Plant Protection Act found at 7 CFR 301.51 et seq. and any applicable provisions of this Federal Order.

The boundaries of the regulated area are as follows:

The portion of Worcester County, including the municipalities of Worcester, Holden, West Boylston, Boylston, and Shrewsbury, that is bounded by a line starting at the intersection of Route 140 (Grafton Circle) and Route 9 (Belmont Street) in Shrewsbury; then north and northwest on Route 140 through Boylston into West Boylston to Goodale Street; then southwest and west on Goodale Street, which becomes Malden Street at the Holden town line; then west and southwest on Malden Street to Main Street (Route 122A) in Holden; then west on Main Street to Salisbury Street; then south on Salisbury Street until it intersects the Worcester City boundary, then along the Worcester City boundary until it intersects Route 20 (Hartford Turnpike), then east on Route 20 to Lake Street, then north and northeast on Lake Street to Route 9 (Belmont Street), then east on Route 9 to the point of beginning.

On September 4, 2008, APHIS issued a Federal Order (DA-2008-59) to add a portion of Worcester County to the ALB quarantined areas. Other areas of the country are also quarantined for ALB. These include areas of Queens, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Staten Island, and Long Island, New York, and portions of Middlesex and Union Counties, New Jersey. The existing boundaries for the quarantines in New York and New Jersey can be found in 7 CFR 301.51.

7 CFR 301.51-3(a) allows the designation of less than an entire State as a ALB quarantined area only when the Administrator of APHIS has determined, as in this case, that the designation of less than an entire State as a quarantined ALB area is adequate to prevent the interstate spread of infestations of this pest. In addition, 7 CFR 301.51-3(a) requires that the State enforces an intrastate ALB quarantine that is equivalent to the Federal ALB regulations. The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and

Recreation has established an intra-state quarantine for a portion of Worcester County that mirrors the Federal Regulatory requirements as specified in 7 CFR 301.51.

7 CFR 301.51-3 (b) provides for the temporary designation of new quarantined areas pending publication of a rule to add areas to the list shown in 7 CFR 301.51-3(c). 7 CFR 301.51-3 (b) further requires written notification be given to the owner or person in possession of a newly quarantined area. This is the responsibility of the Federal and/or State regulatory personnel responsible for the ALB program in the affected State.

The Federal Orders have been necessary due to the ongoing delimitation of the ALB infestation in Massachusetts. This **October 31, 2008**, Federal Order updates and replaces all previous versions of Federal Orders pertaining to the expansion of quarantined areas in the ALB domestic regulations.

If you wish more details on the Federal ALB regulatory program, you may contact Christine Markham, APHIS' National ALB Program Director at (919) 855-7328 or Julie Twardowski, APHIS' National ALB Program Coordinator, at (301) 734-5332.

We appreciate the cooperative relationship with the State of Massachusetts in our effort to prevent the spread of ALB.