

FOR INFORMATION

DA-2007-23

July 16, 2007

SUBJECT: Detection of *Sirex noctilio* Fabricius (Sirex woodwasp) in Macomb County,  
Michigan

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

On July 10, 2007, USDA confirmed the detection of a single female *Sirex noctilio* woodwasp in Macomb County, Michigan. This pest was collected on July 6, 2007, from a trap placed as part of cooperative State and Federal *S. noctilio* survey efforts. No additional *S. noctilio* woodwasps have been detected in traps within a 20 mile radius of this positive detection and no obvious signs of tree decline that might be associated with this pest were observed.

Cooperative State and Federal *S. noctilio* survey activities will continue in Michigan through the summer and early fall of 2007, as will trap tree survey activities being conducted by the U.S. Forest Service in the State. The survey area within Michigan is part of a multi-State detection survey for *S. noctilio* that is ongoing in high risk areas throughout the United States.

*S. noctilio* is an exotic species of wood-boring wasp capable of causing significant mortality in healthy species of pine trees. This pest is present in some parts of the United States. *S. noctilio* was positively confirmed in 25 counties in New York and 2 counties in Pennsylvania. Furthermore, 21 counties in the Ontario Province of Canada are infested by this pest. APHIS is currently considering its regulatory options to address *S. noctilio*.

PPQ is working with the States of Michigan, New York, and Pennsylvania and other unaffected States with significant pine tree resources to prevent the further spread of this harmful forest pest. To this end, PPQ's Center for Plant Health Science and Technology plans to conduct a second pilot study of a promising biological control agent against *S. noctilio* using the nematode, *Beddingia siricidicola*, in the Fall of 2007.

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