SUBJECT: Federal Order for *Anoplophora chinensis* (Forster), the Citrus Longhorned Beetle (CLB), and *Anoplophora glabripennis*, the Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB)

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

The Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is issuing a Federal Order (attached) to establish prohibitions and restrictions of the importation for host genera of plants for planting of CLB and ALB, effective on the 22nd day after the above issuance date of this Federal Order.

The CLB and ALB are destructive polyphagous wood boring pests. Outbreaks of ALB have already caused substantial damage in the urban and forest environment. CLB attacks over 68 host species, including several economically important fruit, forest, and ornamental plant species.

Recently (July, August, and December of 2008), APHIS’ Offshore Pest Information System (OPIS), reported CLB interceptions in the European Union (EU) on plants for planting imported from Asia. CLB is currently under control and/or eradication in several EU countries. On October 15, 2008, the EU issued a directive outlining emergency measures restricting host genera to stop the introduction and spread of CLB.

Due to the rise in interceptions of CLB, the threat of introduction of this plant pest into the United States has also increased. In response to the increased pest threat, APHIS is issuing the attached Federal Order, which classifies countries according to presence and/or official control of CLB and ALB and details prohibitions and restrictions on the importation of host genera of plants for planting of CLB and ALB.

For additional information regarding this Federal Order, please contact Christa Speekmann at (301) 734-5289 or christa.l.speekmann@aphis.usda.gov.

/s/ Rebecca A. Bech

Rebecca A. Bech
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine

Attachment:
Federal Order
Anoplophora chinensis (Forster), the Citrus Longhorned Beetle (CLB) and Anoplophora glabripennis, Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB)

January 16, 2009

The purpose and goal of this Federal Order is to prevent the introduction and dissemination of two harmful plant pests, Citrus Longhorned Beetle (CLB), Anoplophora chinensis (Forster) (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae), and Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB), A. glabripennis, from foreign countries into the United States.

The life cycle of A. chinensis and A. glabripennis is one to two years depending on the climate and feeding environment. The larvae feed on the pith and vascular tissue of the trunk and roots. The larval feeding tunnels increase the plant's susceptibility to disease and wind damage and reduce water and nutrient transport, which may result in reduced fruit production and/or premature plant death.

Infestations in trees are difficult to detect during inspection because larval development occurs inside the tree, frequently at the root collar. Infested plants for planting that have cleared port of entry inspection have been found at the importing nursery to have these pests, which then require eradication. Foliar insecticides are effective at controlling adults, but have little effect on the wood boring larvae and pupae. The only effective means of controlling the larval and pupal stages is to chip or burn potentially infested trees and to apply foliar insecticides for adults.

The natural geographical range of A. chinensis and A. glabripennis consists primarily of South East Asia. However, the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service’s (APHIS) Offshore Pest Information System (OPIS) recently reported A. chinensis interceptions in the European Union (EU) on host material imported from Asia. A. chinensis is not known to occur in the United States, although it has been introduced with limited distribution and subsequently eradicated. A. glabripennis has a limited distribution in the United States, has been eradicated in Illinois, and is being eradicated in New York, Massachusetts, and New Jersey. Because interceptions of A. chinensis have increased, the threat of introduction of this plant pest into the United States has also increased.

A. chinensis and A. glabripennis are destructive polyphagous wood boring pests. A. glabripennis has already caused substantial damage in the urban and forest environment of certain areas of Illinois, New York, Massachusetts, and New Jersey. A. chinensis attacks over 68 host species belonging to 19 families, including several economically important fruit, forest, and ornamental plant species. The introduction of A. chinensis and A. glabripennis poses a significant plant pest threat to many important fruit, forest, and ornamental trees in the United States. Due to the potential for serious plant pest injury from A. chinensis and A. glabripennis, immediate action is warranted to address import requirements on host plants for planting that are pathways for these two destructive polyphagous wood boring pests.
This Federal Order is issued pursuant to the regulatory authority provided by the Plant Protection Act (PPA) 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 importation, entry, exportation, or movement in interstate commerce of any plant, plant product, biological control organism, noxious weed, article, or means of conveyance, if the Secretary determines that the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the introduction into the United States or the dissemination of a plant pest or noxious weed within the United States.

The Administrator of APHIS has determined that it is necessary to establish prohibitions and restrictions on the importation of specific regulated articles to prevent the introduction and dissemination of the plant pests, *A. chinensis* and *A. glabripennis*, into the United States.

Therefore, effective on the 22nd day after issuance of this Federal Order, host genera of plants for planting (listed below) with stem and root collar diameter greater than 10 mm (0.4 in.), or that do not meet the requirements of 319.37-5(q) for artificially dwarfed plants, are prohibited from countries (listed below) where populations of *A. chinensis* and/or *A. glabripennis* are present and are not under any official control by the authorized government entity responsible for plant pest and phytosanitary regulations of the respective countries (the national plant protection organization). All other plants for planting prohibitions and restrictions in 7 CFR 319 still apply and are not affected by this Federal Order.

Also, effective on the 22nd day after issuance of this Federal Order, host genera of plants for planting (listed below) from a country or region (listed below) where the presence of *A. chinensis* and/or *A. glabripennis* is considered to be a transient population that is regulated and under official control are required to be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate with an additional declaration stating that the plants or plant parts in this shipment were grown in a production area where *A. chinensis* and *A. glabripennis* are not known to occur, and were inspected and found free of *A. chinensis* and *A. glabripennis*. Host genera of plants for planting originating from areas regulated for *A. chinensis* and/or *A. glabripennis* within EU with stem and root collar diameter greater than 10 mm (0.4 in.), or that do not meet the requirements of 319.37-5(q) for artificially dwarfed plants, are prohibited. All other plants for planting prohibitions and restrictions in 7 CFR 319 still apply and are not affected by this Federal Order.

**Host genera of plants for planting of *A. chinensis* and/or *A. glabripennis***:  

**Countries where *A. chinensis* and/or *A. glabripennis* populations are present and not under official control.**

Afghanistan, China, Japan, Indonesia, Republic of Korea, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Madagascar, Malaysia, Myanmar, Philippines, Taiwan, and Vietnam

**Countries where the presence of *A. chinensis* and/or *A. glabripennis* populations are considered to be transient, regulated and under eradication and/or official control.**

European Union

The Date of Issuance of This Federal Order is: **January 16, 2009**