SUBJECT: Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, and Howard Counties, Maryland, Added to the Quarantine Area for Pine Shoot Beetle (PSB)

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

Effective immediately, USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), has expanded its Pine Shoot Beetle (PSB—*Tomicus piniperda*) quarantine area to include the counties of Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, and Howard, in Maryland. This action is a result of the detection of beetles in the subject counties. All interstate movement of regulated articles out of these counties must comply with the PSB-regulatory requirements per 7 CFR 301.50.

These actions are necessary to restrict the movement of PSB-host material. The attached Federal Domestic Quarantine Order describes the expanded quarantine area, along with the associated reference to the *Code of Federal Regulations* listing the provisions for the movement of PSB-host material.

If you wish more details on the Federal Pine Shoot Beetle regulatory program, you may contact Joseph Beckwith at (919) 855-7345 or Julie Twardowski at (301) 734-5332. For information on regulatory requirements for the interstate movement of articles out of Maryland, please contact the APHIS State Plant Health Director, Matthew Travis, at (410) 631-0073.

/s/ Paul R. Eggert/

Rebecca A. Bech
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine

1 Attachment:
--Federal Order
This Federal Order is issued pursuant to 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.

This Federal Order quarantines, effective immediately, Baltimore, Carroll, Harford, and Howard Counties, Maryland, for pine shoot beetle (PSB), *Tomicus piniperda*. This action is in response to detection of PSB in those counties. Accordingly, effective immediately, all interstate movement of PSB-regulated articles from the counties identified above must be done in accordance with the regulations promulgated pursuant to the Plant Protection Act found in 7 CFR 301.50 et.seq.

7 CFR 301.50-3(a) allows the quarantine of less than an entire State only when the State enforces an intrastate quarantine that matches Federal Pine Shoot Beetle regulations. On June 4, 2010, the State Plant Regulatory Official for Maryland announced the establishment of an intrastate quarantine for the counties listed above that mirrors the Federal PSB regulatory requirements as specified in 7 CFR 301.50.

7 CFR 301.50-3(b) provides for the temporary designation of new quarantine areas pending publication of a rule to add those new quarantine areas to the list shown in 7 CFR 301.50-3(c). 7 CFR 301.50-3(b) further requires written notification be given to the owners of property and enterprises in a newly quarantined area, advising them of the quarantine and the necessity of complying with the imposed APHIS requirements for the interstate movement of regulated articles. This is the responsibility of the Federal and/or State regulatory personnel responsible for the PSB program in the affected state.

If you wish more details on the Federal Pine Shoot Beetle regulatory program, you may contact Joseph Beckwith at (919) 855-7345 or Julie Twardowski at (301) 734-5332. For information on regulatory requirements for interstate movement of articles out of Maryland, please contact the APHIS State Plant Health Director, Matthew Travis, at 410) 631-0073.

We continue to appreciate the cooperative relationship with the state of Maryland in our mutual effort to prevent the spread of quarantine pests including PSB.