

FOR INFORMATION

DA-2007-32

August 22, 2007

SUBJECT: Detection of *Sirex noctilio* Fabricius (Hymenoptera: Siricidae) (Sirex woodwasp) in Chemung, Herkimer and Tompkins Counties in New York

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

On July 20, July 23, and August 8, respectively, single suspect woodwasps were collected in Herkimer, Tompkins, and Chemung Counties in New York from traps placed near pine trees at private residences. The specimens were positively confirmed as female *Sirex noctilio* on August 3, 2007 (Herkimer and Tompkins Counties) and August 16, 2007 (Chemung County) by the Systematic Entomology Laboratory, Beltsville, Maryland. This survey season, more than 200 traps have been set as part of an APHIS PPQ survey for *S. noctilio* in New York Counties that have not previously reported positive *S. noctilio* survey results.

These recent *S. noctilio* confirmations bring the total number of infested counties in New York to 28. *Sirex noctilio* has also been detected in one county in Michigan, four counties in Pennsylvania and 21 counties in Ontario Province, Canada.

In other countries, where *S. noctilio* has been inadvertently introduced, biological control programs have been developed for this wood boring pest of *Pinus* sp. A pilot study involving a controlled release of the *Sirex* nematode (*Beddingia siricidicola*) in areas of New York was conducted in 2006 and a second pilot study is planned for fall 2007. APHIS is currently considering its regulatory options to address *S. noctilio*.

/s/ Michael A. Lidsky for

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