Ohio Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) Cooperative Response
MEDIA UPDATE

August 2, 2011

Media Inquires Call:
ALB PIO—Bethel Ohio 513-502-1810
APHIS PIO—Rhonda Santos 508-852-8044
ODA PIO—Andy Ware 614-752-9817

KEY MESSAGES: Residents in the ALB regulated area established for Tate Township within Clermont County cannot move firewood or wood debris outside of the regulated area and outside of East Fork State Park. Residents are discouraged from moving firewood and wood debris inside the regulated area. Residents can report suspected Asian longhorned beetles by calling 1-855-252-6450 or by going online to www.BeetleBusters.info. Residents can also call 1-855-252-6450 to report any movement of firewood or wood debris within or outside of the regulated area over the past 5 years. Area homeowners will not incur costs for the removals of infested trees by the state or federal government.

Clermont County

As of July 1, all Assessment Survey activities have been completed. The Cooperative Response effort is now conducting Delimiting Surveys. Delimiting Surveys began on July 5. Delimiting Surveys consist of visual surveys being conducted of all host trees within a 1 1/2 mile radius of infested trees. Delimiting Survey activities are being conducted in the village of Bethel and Tate Township. The following numbers pertain to the Delimiting Surveys currently underway:

648	Number of ALB infested trees confirmed
1,900	Number of trees surveyed on 8/01/11
27,134	Number of trees surveyed since 7/5/11
56	Square-miles under regulation; see "Regulated Area" map: http://www.agri.ohio.gov/TopNews/asianbeetle/docs/ALB_quarantine_map.pdf

In the event of inclement weather, surveys may be delayed or cancelled. APHIS and cooperating State inspectors survey for the presence of ALB by examining individual host trees for signs of beetle damage.

INFORMATION MEETINGS: There are no ALB information meetings planned for the upcoming week.

ONLINE RESOURCES:
USDA ALB information site: www.BeetleBusters.info
USDA APHIS ALB newsroom: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/newsroom/hot_issues/alb/alb.shtml
ODA ALB information: http://www.agri.ohio.gov/TopNews/asianbeetle

BACKGROUND: The Asian longhorned beetle (Anoplophora glabripennis, ALB) is an invasive pest from Asia that came to the United States concealed in solid wood packing material; pallets, crates and dunnage, used to transport goods from overseas. ALB was first detected in the United States in 1996 in Brooklyn, NY. Ohio is the fifth state to detect the destructive ALB.

The Ohio ALB cooperative response effort is comprised of USDA's Animal Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), the Ohio Department of Agriculture (ODA), the Ohio Department of Natural Resources (ODNR), and Clermont County, including the village of Bethel and the surrounding communities within Tate Township.