Ohio Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) Cooperative Response
MEDIA UPDATE

November 9, 2011

Media Inquires Call:
APHIS PIO—Rhonda Santos 508-852-8044
ODA PIO—Brett Gates 614-752-9712

KEY MESSAGES: Residents in the ALB regulated areas established within Clermont County cannot move firewood or wood debris outside of the regulated area and outside of East Fork State Park. Residents are also discouraged from moving firewood and wood debris inside the regulated area. The quarantine restricts the movement of hardwood logs, firewood, stumps, roots and branches out of the regulated area and also restricts the sale of nursery stock, green lumber, and logs of the following trees: maples, horse chestnut, buckeye, mimosa, birch, hackberry, ash, golden raintree, katsura, sycamore, poplar, willow, mountain ash, and elms. Program staff continue to monitor regulated areas, respond to service calls and conduct training sessions for compliance agreements. For answers to questions about regulated materials and permits, or to report wood movement, please call the program office at 513-502-1251. Infested tree removals are anticipated to start in November. During removal operations, program personnel will be onsite to oversee the contractors at all times. There will be no cost to the homeowners for removal of infested trees. Tree removals will not take place without prior notification to the property owner. The program will work directly with property owners to address any concerns or special circumstances. Residents can report suspected Asian longhorned beetles by calling 1-855-252-6450 or by going online to www.BeetleBusters.info.

Clermont County

Ground and aerial survey crews continue to conduct delimiting surveys, inspecting all host trees throughout the regulated areas in Clermont County. Staff survey for the presence of ALB by examining individual host trees for signs of beetle damage. The following numbers pertain to the surveys currently being conducted:

5,006	Number of ALB infested trees confirmed
63,978	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.

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/
ODNR ALB information: http://www.dnr.state.oh.us/health/asianlonghorned/tabid/5197/Default.aspx
Clermont County ALB page: http://bugs.clermontcountyohio.gov/

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 communities within Tate and Monroe Townships.