

Governor John R. Kasich
Lieutenant Governor Mary Taylor
Director James Zehringer

Office of Communication
8995 East Main Street, Reynoldsburg, OH 43068
Phone: 614-752-9817 • Fax: 614-466-7754
www.agri.ohio.gov • communications@agri.ohio.gov

ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE: Fact Sheet

BACKGROUND

The invasive Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) grows, reproduces in, and kills deciduous hardwood trees such as maple, birch, horse chestnut, poplar, willow, elm, and ash. The ALB is from east Asian countries such as China and Japan, and is known to come into the U.S. in crates and pallets used to import goods from those countries. In addition to the just-declared Ohio ALB infestation, there are currently ALB eradication efforts underway in Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York. It has been successfully eradicated in Chicago.

ALB DISCOVERY IN CLERMONT COUNTY

On June 9, an alert landowner noticed three damaged maple trees in Tate Township, Clermont County. An Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Forestry service forester responded, suspected ALB, and submitted a pupae sample for confirmation of a ALB discovery to the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS). On June 16, APHIS, along with representatives from the Ohio Department of Agriculture and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, inspected the property and discovered adult beetles which were identified by APHIS as ALB on June 17.

POTENTIAL ECONOMIC IMPACT

If not controlled, the ALB could decimate maple trees in Ohio, impacting up to \$2.5 billion worth of standing timber, adversely affecting maple sugar processors, damaging the state's multi-billion dollar nursery industry, and diminishing Ohio's popular fall foliage season. The USDA Forest Service cites more than 7 billion board feet of maple wood currently standing in Ohio.

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