

# ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE

## Quarterly Update



Volume 1, Spring Issue

May, 2004

New York Asian Longhorned Beetle Cooperative Eradication Program



**Report an Asian longhorned beetle sighting:**

**877-STOP-ALB**

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Asian Longhorned Beetle  
*Anoplophora glabripennis*  
(Actual Size)

## Preventative treatments to begin

NEW YORK – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will treat approximately 69,000 trees susceptible to the Asian longhorned beetle in New York. In an effort to prevent further infestation of this destructive pest, APHIS implemented the treatment portion of its on-going Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) Cooperative Eradication Program on May 5.



Trunk injection of imidacloprid

The trees are being injected with the insecticide imidacloprid, which has displayed promising results in past treatments. Program officials plan to treat approximately 12,500 trees in Manhattan; 23,000 in Brooklyn; 24,500 in Queens and 9,000 on Long Island.

Project officials administer the treatments by either injecting the insecticide into the tree through small capsules placed at the base of the tree's trunk or by injecting it into the soil surrounding the tree. Each site will be closely monitored. The insecticide

is dispersed through the tree's vascular system. This enables the insecticide to reach ALB adults feeding on small twigs and leaves and the larvae feeding beneath the bark of host trees. Imidacloprid is currently used in some store-bought lawn and garden

Cont. on page 3

## Tree restoration on Long Island

NEW YORK – Beginning this spring through the fall, trees will be planted on Long Island, to replace those lost due to Asian longhorned beetle infestation.

Since 1996, more than 5,000 trees have been planted on Long Island and in New York City by Trees New York, the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation and the Town of Oyster Bay, in

cooperation with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the USDA Forest Service.

As part of this ongoing effort, another 150 street trees will be planted on public land in the Towns of Babylon, Oyster Bay and Islip.

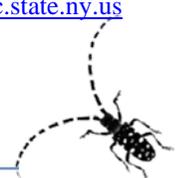
If you have any questions regarding the replacement of trees infested by the

Asian longhorned beetle please contact:

Megan Sheremata - Forester  
New York State Department of Environmental Conservation – Lands and Forests  
Long Island City, NY 11101

Telephone: 718.482.6440

Email: [mxsherem@gw.dec.state.ny.us](mailto:mxsherem@gw.dec.state.ny.us)



## Compliance Training Schedule

May 20<sup>th</sup> 6-9:30 pm  
Hicks Nursery, Westbury

June 15<sup>th</sup> 10am – 2 pm  
Olmstead Center, Queens

July 13<sup>th</sup> 6-9:30 pm  
Massapequa Park Town Hall

**For more information call:  
(631) 288-1751**

## Dennis Roberts awarded

HUNTINGTON, Long Island - The Nassau Suffolk Landscape Gardener's Association (NSLGA) Environmental Award has only been given to four people. Dennis Roberts, senior horticulture inspector for the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets (Ag. & Markets), became that fourth person when he received the prestigious award March 3, at the NSLGA's 36th Annual Professional Turf, Plant and Tree Conference.

A graduate from the State University of New York Cobleskill, with a

degree in ornamental horticulture, Roberts joined Ag. and Markets in 1972 as a field inspector in the greenhouse industry. He was brought into the Asian Longhorned Beetle Cooperative Eradication Program in August 1996 and is currently overseeing the State's regulatory compliance program. In 1998 he was the recipient of the Secretary of Agriculture Award for Excellence for his work with the ALB team.

Roberts, who was also awarded with a rare lifetime membership to NSLGA, will be retiring to Florida later this year.

*Compliance training is mandatory when working with ALB host material within a quarantined area!*

## News from other Asian longhorned beetle programs

**JERSEY CITY** - The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service will treat approximately 1,000 susceptible trees to the Asian longhorned beetle in New Jersey. In an effort to prevent further infestation of this destructive pest, APHIS will implement the treatment portion of its on-going Asian Longhorned Beetle (ALB) Cooperative Eradication Program in May. The trees will be injected with the insecticide imidacloprid, which has displayed promising results in past treatments.

In addition to treating trees, survey and regulatory activities are on-going. Recently, two tree climbers with the New Jersey Department of Agriculture inspected more than 1,000

host trees in the Palisades area of the New Jersey ALB quarantine. The contracted bucket truck survey for this year was completed in April, with 710 host trees being inspected with no signs of the ALB. Approximately 45 percent of the all the ALB host trees within the quarantine area have been surveyed this year.

Public awareness and support is a key part to the success of the New Jersey ALB Program. In cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Division of Parks and Forests, the program is developing a major ALB exhibit to be displayed at the Liberty Science Center in Jersey City. More than

one million people visit the center annually.

**ILLINOIS** - The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service has amended the existing Asian longhorned beetle quarantine boundaries in Illinois.

Through intensive surveys and inspections, it has been determined that the quarantine encompassing Addison, in DuPage County and the Village of Summit, in Cook County, no longer displayed evidence of ALB infestation and have been removed from the quarantined region of Illinois. This action is consistent with ALB eradication protocol.

Additional surveys also confirmed an infestation outside of the Ravenswood quarantine area in Chicago, which prompted extension of the quarantine by 6.7 square-miles, to include the area around Chicago's Oz Park. This action is necessary to prevent the artificial spread of this destructive pest.

The Illinois program also began treating approximately 89,000 trees susceptible to the Asian longhorned beetle with imidacloprid. The treatment program is similar to the New York program.

**CANADA** - Information on the Asian longhorned beetle infestation in Canada can be found at the Canadian Food Inspection Agency website:



## Insecticide treatments (cont. from page 1)

products, by some lawn service companies to kill lawn grubs and in some domestic pet treatments to kill fleas.

The ALB, native to China, bores into healthy hardwood trees and feeds on living tree tissue during the larval stage. Later, throughout the summer, adult beetles emerge from exit holes and briefly feed on the small twigs and leaves of host trees. To fight this destructive invader, agriculture officials removed and destroyed more than 7,100 trees in and around New York City and Long Island.

Since its initial discovery in New York in 1996, tree destruction has been the only method for controlling this beetle. APHIS officials are optimistic that using imidacloprid will decrease beetle populations and future tree loss

but advise that, if a tree is infested, it will be removed regardless of treatment. The goal is to eradicate this highly destructive insect from New York.

Residents can assist in the eradication effort by allowing project officials access to their property to treat trees. For more information on the treatment program, call 1-866-265-0301. The public can also help by looking for ALB, which is about 1 to 1.5 inches long, has a shiny jet black body with distinctive white spots and long antennae that are banded with black and white. To report a sighting of this insect, call 1-877-STOP-ALB.

APHIS, USDA's Forest Service, New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets, New York Department of Environmental Conservation and the New York City Department of Parks and Recreation participate in the ALB Cooperative Eradication Program.

## Tree climbers to be hired

NEW YORK – The New York ALB Cooperative Eradication Program will be hiring 12 tree climbers this summer for its survey team. There will be three tree climbers assigned to each field office (Amityville, Brooklyn, Queens and Manhattan).

The program has previously depended on smokejumpers from USDA Forest Service and the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Land Management, who climbed trees during the wildfire off-season. Smokejumpers are specialized firefighters who parachute into remote areas to attack wildland fires.

In New York, smokejumpers

have discovered numerous infested trees proving their significant role in ALB eradication and area tree survey.

Program officials are excited to have dedicated tree climbers to inspect trees all year round.

"Filling these positions will permit the project to have an in-house staff to assist the local offices with infestation verification activities, environmental sampling, quality assurance work and compliance establishment checks," said Joe Gittleman, regional director of the USDA APHIS New York ALB Cooperative Eradication Program.

The program hopes to have some of these positions filled shortly.



Adult Asian longhorned beetle with exit hole.

For more information, visit the APHIS Web site at:

[www.aphis.usda.gov](http://www.aphis.usda.gov)

Click on the search button and type ALB.



USDA Forest Service Smokejumpers

Applications are available online by searching for *tree climber* at:

[www.usajobs.opm.gov](http://www.usajobs.opm.gov)



## Contacts

**Beetle Sighting**  
(877) STOP-ALB

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**Queens Office**  
(718) 747-6758

**Manhattan Office**  
(212) 337-2645

**Tree Replanting**  
NYS-DEC  
Lands & Forests  
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Questions or comments  
on this publication  
should be directed to:

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Amityville, NY 11701

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## New York ALB outreach events

### March

- 4 Queens Community Board 2 Meeting
- 7 Douglaston Manor Environmental Ass.
- 10 Queens Community Board 5 Meeting
- 11 Queens Community Board 1 Meeting
- 13 Making Brooklyn Bloom – Brooklyn Botanic Garden

### April

- 2-4 Hofstra Flower Show
- 5 Brooklyn Community Board 8 Meeting
- 21 Queens Community Board 8 Meeting
- 24 Heckscher Arbor Day
- 24 Planting Fields Arbor Day
- 27 Brooklyn Community Board 9 Meeting
- 30 Forest Park Arbor Day

### May

- 8 Van Cortlandt Park Green Day

*Upcoming dates are subject to change.*

Contact (631) 598-5943 to set up an ALB event.

## Latest New York Infestions

**Brooklyn:** An infested tree was found in Williamsburg on 4/29/04

**Long Island:** An infested tree was found in Massapequa on 12/08/03

**Manhattan:** An infested tree was found on Beekman Place on 8/8/02

**Queens:** An infested tree was found in Maspeth on 12/1/03

## Information available on the web at:

Forest Service: [www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/alb/index.htm](http://www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/alb/index.htm)

Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service: [www.aphis.usda.gov](http://www.aphis.usda.gov)

University of Vermont Entomology Research Laboratory: [www.uvm.edu/albeetle](http://www.uvm.edu/albeetle)

New York City Parks & Recreation: [www.nycgovparks.org](http://www.nycgovparks.org)

## About the program...

The New York Asian Longhorned Beetle Cooperative Eradication Program is headquartered in Amityville, NY and includes participation from USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, USDA Forest Service, New York State Department of Agriculture & Markets, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and New York City Department of Parks & Recreation.





ANIMAL AND PLANT  
HEALTH INSPECTION SERVICE  
PLANT PROTECTION AND QUARANTINE  
ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE  
COOPERATIVE ERADICATION PROGRAM

# NEW YORK STATE - ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE PROGRAM 2003 QUARANTINE BOUNDARIES

