

ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE COOPERATIVE ERADICATION PROGRAM

PROGRAM STATUS REPORT FY 2003

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Significant Events

Shortfalls in funding had a severe negative impact on the program in 2003. Total appropriated dollars allocated to the eradication program, national survey, public outreach, and research was \$26 million. The allocation of emergency funds in the amount of \$7 million came very late in FY 2003, too late to support program activities. Funding for the 2003 program was about \$20 million less than the amount received in FY 2002. As a result, drastic cuts were made to operational activities.

Program Cutbacks

- Tree climbing and bucket truck survey contracts were terminated in NY in May 2003. Since May, surveys continue at a much slower rate through ground inspection using federal and state program personnel.
- No restoration activities were funded in New York or Illinois.
- Chemical treatments in NY were severely cut from the planned activities of 143,000 trees. Only 17,570 trees were treated.
- The development of the emergency program database was stopped.
- Research activities were drastically reduced.

New Jersey Accomplishments

- Full funding for program activities.
- All host trees located within the quarter-mile radius of the Jersey City, NJ infestation were removed and destroyed.
 - * As a result of this aggressive control measure, 11 more very lightly infested trees were detected after take down which were not detected when these trees were surveyed previously with climbers.
 - * Total trees removed in NJ were 461 (113 infested and 348 high risk exposed trees)
- Chemical treatments were applied to all non-infested host trees per protocol levels

* All host trees located within half-mile radius of the infestation in Jersey City and Hoboken NJ were treated. Trees treated = 1,060.

- 100% of all surveys were completed to protocol levels. Bucket trucks and tree climbers were used exclusively for the delimiting and detection surveys.
- No infested trees found in 2003.
- Regulated area remained static at 3.7 square miles.
- 100% restoration was achieved with 395 trees replanted.
- Four companies are under compliance agreement. Seven site visits were made. No warnings or violations were issued.

Illinois Accomplishments

- Full funding for program activities.
- The treatment area was expanded to half-mile radius around the Chicago infestation and the Park Ridge infestation. The remaining satellite infestations (Addison, Summit, and O'Hare) were treated to quarter-mile radius. More aggressive measures were taken in Chicago because of the size and age of that infestation and in Park Ridge because of the difficulty with inspecting a forested area. Total trees treated = 92,045 compared to 51,307 in 2002.
- 100% of all surveys were completed. Bucket trucks and tree climbers are used exclusively for the delimiting and detection surveys.
- In November 2003, three infested trees were found about half-mile south of the Chicago quarantine boundary in the Oz Park area of Chicago.
 - * These trees were detected as a result of a live adult beetle which was discovered by a member of the public in October 2003. The infested trees were about two blocks away from where the beetle was found.

- * This small pocket of infested trees was located 1.9 miles southeast of the closest known infested trees which were detected in April 2002.
- Three trees with signs of old infestation were detected within the infested core of Chicago Ravenswood Quarantine.
- Proposed deregulation of the satellite infestations of Addison and Summit.
 - * Two years of negative survey were completed in 2003. As per ALB eradication protocol, an infested area may be considered for deregulation after 2 years of negative survey and may be declared eradicated after 4 years of negative survey.
- Proposed changes to regulated area:
 - * 6.7 square mile expansion to the Chicago quarantine as a result of the infested trees found near Oz Park.
 - * 1.74 square mile reduction as a result of the deregulation of Addison and Summit
 - o New regulated area = 34.49 square miles — (25.09 square miles in Chicago, 0.35 square miles in Park Ridge, 9.05 square miles in O’Hare).
 - o Previous regulated area = 29.52 square miles — (18.39 square miles in Chicago, 0.81 square miles in Addison, 0.92 square miles in Summit, 0.35 square miles in Park Ridge, and 9.05 square miles in O’Hare).
- There are 229 companies are under compliance agreement; 1,125 compliance visits were completed; 15 caution letters and two violations were issued.
- 29% of the Level 1/Level 2 surveys were completed; 190 infested trees were detected - (56 in Brooklyn, 126 in Queens and 8 in Central Long Island). No infested trees were detected in Manhattan or in Islip this year.
 - * An additional 20 high risk trees were removed for control purposes.
 - * The largest infestation was found in Mt. Olivet Cemetery in Queens with 81 infested trees detected and removed.
- 99% of the Level 4 survey was completed.
- 12 square miles was added into regulation due to the detection of infested trees just outside the Level 1 survey boundary along southern Brooklyn.
 - * New regulated area = 132 square miles (16 square miles in Manhattan, 54 square miles in Brooklyn/Western Queens, 32 square miles in Eastern Queens, 23 square miles in Central Long Island, and 7 square miles in Islip, Long Island).
 - * Previous regulated area = 120 square miles (16 square miles in Manhattan, 42 square miles in Brooklyn/Western Queens, 32 square miles in Eastern Queens, 23 square miles in Central Long Island, and 7 square miles in Islip Long Island).
- There are 1,240 companies under compliance agreement; 2,072 compliance visits were completed; 124 caution letters and two violations were issued.
- Public awareness activities:
 - * Forest Service hired an employee for full-time support to the public awareness efforts in NY. NY Department of Environmental Conservation also hired a full-time employee to support restoration and also public awareness efforts.
 - * As a result of the program’s summer advertising campaign “ALB Beetle Alert”, two adult beetles were reported to the program within the infested areas of Queens and Brooklyn and the source trees were identified and removed.

New York Accomplishments

- Chemical Treatments were applied ONLY to the infested areas of Manhattan and Islip, Long Island for a total of 17,570 trees; 134,744 trees were treated in 2002 in all the infested areas (Manhattan, Brooklyn, Queens, Central Long Island, and Islip).
- All climbing contracts for survey were terminated in May 2003. Surveys are continuing using program personnel by ground survey.

	Number of Infested Trees Detected								Total
	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	
New York	812	841	978	1798	715	547	239	190	6120
Illinois	0	0	521	728	209	69	18	6	1551
New Jersey	0	0	0	0	0	0	113	0	113
Total	812	841	1499	2526	924	616	370	196	7784

* The Department of Transportation reported a live beetle from an area they were tree trimming in Brooklyn.

* One of the infestations found in central Long Island was the result of a homeowner reporting a possible infested tree on her property.

- Research Support

* A full-time employee was hired by Otis Plant Methods Center for on ground support to the NY project.

Program Wide Accomplishments

- Enhanced trunk injection technology

* Otis Plant Methods Center continued with the evaluation of several enhanced trunk injection methods which offer pressurized injection of the chemical into the tree. This methodology will eliminate the need to safeguard the trees for 4 hours during treatment.

- Contract for the design and development of an ALB and emergency program database

* Due to the reduced funding, the development of this database was stopped.

* The development of the database, now named Emergency Response Information System (ERIS) resumed in 2004 with funding support from other emergency programs.

- The label for Mauget Imicide Hp is pending approval by USEPA for tree injection use in liquid loadable injectors. In addition, this label increases the dosage rate for larger trees treated under the USDA ALB eradication program.

- Otis Plant Methods Center perfected their techniques in aging infested trees.

- The ELISA technique for residue analysis of chemically treated trees was implemented into

the program this year. This technique allows for immediate and more sensitive readings of chemical concentrations. This process was also an accomplishment of the Otis Plant Methods Center.

- A pathway analysis of the risk of spread and establishment of ALB in municipal solid waste from the quarantine area of New York City to landfills outside of the quarantine area was completed by APHIS CPHST. The study shows that the collection and disposal practices of in place for NYC do not pose a large risk of ALB spread to landfills sites.
- All of the administrative hurdles have been overcome and the program will be hiring tree-climbers starting in early 2004.

Infested Trees Detected

All surveys were completed in IL, and only three infested trees with active signs of infestation were detected. These trees were found about one-half mile outside of the delimiting area of the Chicago Ravenswood infestation. The detection was due to a member of the public finding a live adult beetle clinging to a light pole about two blocks away. Intensive surveys kicked in with climbers and bucket trucks. Aging of the infestation indicates that this population began no later than 2001.

Three additional trees with old signs of infestation were found in IL as a result of program surveys. All three of the trees were located within the core center of the Ravenswood infestation. Two of the trees had treatments applied in 2001 and 2002. The third tree was an Amur maple. This tree escaped treatment in error. The last viable infestation in this tree was aged at year 2000.

In NY, 29% of the detection and delimiting surveys were completed—45% in Manhattan, 18% in Brooklyn,

30% in Queens, 36% in Central Long Island, and 14% in Islip, Long Island. Total infested trees found: 56 in Brooklyn, 126 in Queens, and eight in central Long Island. Eighty-one of the infested trees in Queens were located at one site - in Mt. Olivet Cemetery, Maspeth, NY. Infested trees were not found in Manhattan or in Islip, Long Island.

In NJ, 100% of all surveys were completed and no infested trees were found.

Chemical Treatments

This was the fourth year of chemical treatments in IL. To summarize the history of treatments: In 2000, all host trees within 1/8 of a mile radius of the infested core received treatment via trunk injection in the satellite infested areas of Summit, Addison, Park Ridge, and O'Hare. Also in 2000, treatments were applied within the outermost boundaries of the Chicago Ravenswood infestation. In 2001, trunk injection treatments were applied to all host trees within 1/8 mile radius of all the infested areas in Illinois. In 2002, chemical treatments were applied to all host trees within a ¼ mile radius of the infested core through out all the infested areas in Illinois. Soil injection was implemented operationally. There were over 51,000 trees treated in 2002 with over 31,000 receiving treatment via soil injection. In 2003, treatments were extended to ½ mile radius in Chicago and in Park Ridge. More aggressive measures were taken in Chicago because of the size and age of that infestation and in Park Ridge because of the difficulty with inspecting a forested area. A total of 92,045 trees were treated in 2003—48,400 by soil injection and 43,645 by trunk injection.

In NY, 2003 was the third year for treatment. In 2001, treatments were applied to all host trees within a one-eighth mile radius of the infested core in Manhattan, Bayside, Flushing, and Flushing Meadows Corona Park in New York City and in Islip, LI. In the infested area of Brooklyn and Western Queens, all the host trees located within a one-half mile wide band bordering the East River received treatment. Also in 2000, the outermost boundaries of the Central Long Island infestation were treated. In 2002, treatments were applied through out all

	Trees Chemically Treated			
	2000	2001	2002	2003
New York	0	23,740	134,744	17,570
Illinois	11,400	35,490	51,307	92,045
New Jersey	0	0	0	1,060

the infested areas to all host trees within a quarter mile radius of the infested cores. Over 134,000 trees were treated using trunk injection. In 2003, treatments were drastically reduced. Treatments were concentrated in the out lying areas of the infestation (Manhattan, NYC and Islip, Long Island) to half-mile mile radius. A total of 17,570 trees were treated—10,481 in Manhattan and 7,089 in Islip. All treatments were applied by trunk injection.

In NJ, control measures were applied to all host trees within half-mile radius of the infestation. All host trees located within a quarter-mile radius were removed and destroyed. Chemical treatments were applied to the host trees extending out to the half-mile radius. A total of 1,060 trees were treated—982 via soil injection and 78 through trunk injection.

Regulated Area

The New York regulated area increased by 12 square miles with the expansion of the southern boundary in Brooklyn.

The Illinois regulated area is proposed for expansion by 5 square miles. Two events contributed to this pending change. 1) The Chicago regulated area extended along the southern boundary by 6.7 square miles with the detection of the infested trees near Oz Park; and 2) Two years of negative survey were achieved in the satellite infestations of Addison and Summit. The regulated area for the two infestations totaled 1.74 square miles.

	Square Miles of Regulated Area	
	2002	2003
New York	120.0	132.0
Illinois	29.5	34.5
New Jersey	3.7	3.7