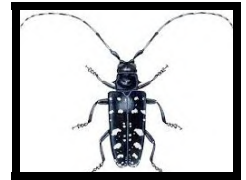


PEST ALERT



Asian Long-horned Beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*): Protect Bahamian Forests

The Asian Long-horned Beetle is native to eastern Asia and feeds on wood. It has spread worldwide via wood packaging materials (WPMs) used in supporting, protecting or carrying a commodity. Tunneling by the ALB larvae, girdles tree stems and branches. Repeated attacks lead to dieback of the tree crown and, eventually, death of the tree. This beetle is such a serious pest, killing hardwood trees in roadside plantings, shelterbelts, and plantations in several countries.

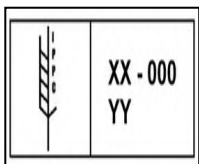
Currently, the only effective means to eliminate ALB is to remove infested trees and destroy them by chipping or burning. To prevent further spread of the insect, quarantines are established to avoid transporting infested trees and branches from the area. Early detection of infestations and rapid treatment response are crucial to successful eradication of this beetle.

The ALB has one generation per year. Adult beetles are present from July to October, but can be found later in the fall if temperatures are warm. Adults usually stay on the trees from which they emerged or they may disperse short distances to a new host to feed and reproduce. Each female usually lays 35-90 eggs during her lifetime, but some of them are capable of laying more than that. The eggs hatch in 10-15 days. The larvae feed under the bark in the living tissue of the tree for a period of time and then bore deep into the wood where they pupate. The adults emerge from pupation sites by boring a tunnel in the wood and creating a round exit hole in the tree.

The International Plant Protection Convention (IPPC) has developed an International Standards For Phytosanitary Measures No. 15 (ISPM 15), an International Phytosanitary Measure that directly addresses the need to treat wood materials of a thickness greater than 6mm, used to ship products between countries. Its main purpose is to prevent the international transport and spread of disease and insects such as ALB, that could negatively affect plants or ecosystems. ISPM 15 affects all wood packaging material such as pallets, dunnage, crating, packing blocks, cable drums, cases, load boards, pallet collars and skids which can be present in almost any imported or exported consignment. These WPMs are required to be debarked and then heat treated or fumigated with methyl bromide and stamped or branded, with a mark of compliance. Products exempt from the ISPM 15 are made from an alternative material, like paper, plastic or wood panel products (i.e. hardboard and plywood).

At ports of entry, WPMs would be inspected for the following:

- Symbol/Markings should be: according to model below; legible; permanent and not transferable; placed in a visible location, preferably on at least two opposite sides of the article being certified .



Where wood packaging material does not carry the required mark, action may be taken unless other bilateral arrangements are in place. This action may take the form of:

Treatment and or disposal of material at Importer's expense; refused entry and re-export.

Importers and exporters are therefore urged to be in compliance with this phytosanitary standard to avoid delays in clearing; costs for non-compliance and logistics for treatment and or re-export.

If you suspect an Asian longhorned beetle infestation, please collect an adult beetle in a jar, place the jar in the freezer, and immediately notify BAHFSA and the Department of Agriculture.

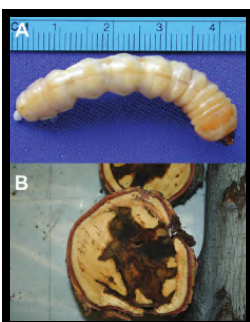
Help protect our Bahamian Forests!

Additional Information

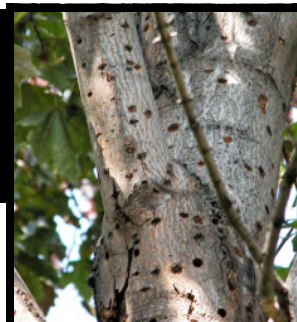
For more information on giant African snails, contact the Plant Protection Division of BAHFSA at (242)604-7004; email: bahfsa@bahamas.gov.bs; yasminjohnson@bahamas.gov.bs

*Please include images of the following: adult beetles; oozing sap caused by

by
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they are used to secure consignments; ISPM-15



ALB; round holes in truck caused by ALB; oval to round pits in bark caused ALB; accumulation of sawdust caused by ALB; wood packaging materials cluding crates and how mark on wood/pallets; treatment of WPMs etc.

BAHFSA, MAMR, Interna-
Plant Health Logos please



*Include
tional Year of