

ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE



WHAT IS THE THREAT:

The Asian Longhorned beetle (*Anoplophora glabrimennis*), or ALB, is an invasive, wood boring insect from China that was accidentally introduced to the New York State in 1996 via wood packaging materials. Adults are large, black beetles with irregular white spotting on their wings and long, black and white striped antennae that are primary active in early summer to fall. Most of the tree damage is caused by the cream colored, grub-like larvae that live under the bark of the tree throughout the winter and feed in the vascular cambium. This feeding puts trees under a substantial amount of stress, as it forces them to allocate their resources towards specific shoots, which can lead to leaf out failure and tree mortality.

WHERE IS THE THREAT:

ALB is primarily a pest of maple, but will also eat other hardwood species. The beetle has been identified in New York, New Jersey, Illinois, Ohio, and Massachusetts. There have been countless reports of ALB interceptions at warehouses and ports around the country, making it very likely that its distribution will continue to expand.

SYMPTOMS:

Symptoms of ALB infestation include, yellowing of the leaves and branch dieback. Additionally, "bleeding" wounds in the trunk or limbs may be present in the summer, as a result of female adult emergence. There may also be large (3/8") sized, perfectly circular holes in the trunk or large limbs and frass (sawdust) on the ground near the holes. Larvae feed under the bark and destroy the quality of the wood as they girdle the trees. Extensive densities over multiple seasons can cause tree mortality.

WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT:

Arborjet recommends treatment with IMA-jet® (imidacloprid) when ALB is detected in your area, but trees still appear healthy for best outcomes (dieback of symptoms <40%). Trees should be treated in the spring before adults become active in June.



Asian Longhorned Beetle larvae



Damage



Exit Hole

Photo Credit: Header Image-Adult Asian Longhorned Beetle: USDA Kenneth R. Law, USDA APHIS PPQ, Bugwood.org Larvae: Steven Katovich, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org Damage: Thomas B. Denholm, New Jersey Department of Agriculture, Bugwood.org Exit Hole: Dennis Haugen, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org