SOUTH CAROLINA is the sixth state to detect an Asian longhorned beetle infestation. The beetle has also been found in New York, New Jersey, Illinois, Massachusetts, and Ohio. *Source date: June 2020*

WHAT TO DO

DON'T MOVE FIREWOOD or other woody material. ALB can be spread to new areas through the movement of firewood, hurricane debris, tree debris, or solid wood packaging material.


Stephen Compton, Clemson University

TREE SPECIES AT RISK

- Maple (*Acer*)
- Willow (*Salix*)
- Elm (*Ulmus*)
- Birch (*Betula*)
- Cottonwood *(Populus)*

Several additional host trees are occasional and/or potential hosts, including exotic ornamental species.

STOP THE SPREAD

To limit the spread of ALB and eliminate the existing infestation, a quarantine zone has been established from which all host material larger than ½" in diameter and hardwood firewood cannot be moved.

For more details about the quarantine and to see the map visit:

www.clemson.edu/public/albmap

CLEMSON® REGULATORY SERVICES

INVASIVE SPECIES PROGRAM

A partnership to eradicate Asian Longhorned Beetle.

HOW TO REPORT

If you suspect an ALB infestation, please contact the Clemson University Department of Plant Industry at:

- email: stopalb@clemson.edu
- call: (843) 973-8329

FOR MORE INFORMATION

www.clemson.edu/public/alb

WHO WE ARE & WHAT WE DO

The Department of Plant Industry, a part of Regulatory Services in Clemson University's Public Service and Agriculture, helps prevent the introduction of new plant pests into South Carolina as well as the spread of existing plant pests to non-infested areas.

Plant pest surveys, inspections, quarantines, and control and eradication programs are among the tools used to safeguard the state's agricultural and natural resources.

www.facebook.com/invasivespeciesprogram
www.clemson.edu/invasives

CLEMSON UNIVERSITY

Asian Longhorned Beetle

HOW IT FEEDS

ALB typically destroys trees from the inside-out as larvae feed first on the phloem and then finish their development in the xylem, disrupting transport of water and nutrients in the tree. Mature beetles then leave the trees, making exit holes as big as a pencil. Adult beetles do feed on the twigs of infested trees, but this damage is relatively minimal.

THE COST

ALB infestations across the U.S. cause huge economic losses for the nursery and forest industries. Municipalities and homeowners with infested trees may incur major damage as many hosts for ALB are commonly found in urban and suburban areas. Falling trees and branches are a safety hazard as ALB weakens tree structure as the larvae chew large tunnels in the wood. Trees eventually die from this damage.

KNOW THE SIGNS

Large round exit holes & sap oozing

Shallow, discolored depressions where females lay eggs

Sawdust and/or wood shavings pushed out by larval feeding

David Coyle, Clemson University

WE NEED YOU

ALB infestations have already killed thousands of trees in 5 states and threaten trees in every state. Once a beetle infests a tree, there is no cure. Our best line of defense against this devastating pest is vigilance. South Carolinians can look at trees in their landscape for signs and symptoms of ALB.

Check host species for symptoms of decline such as crown and branch dieback, defoliation, and shoots developing in abnormal places like the trunk.

There are native beetle look-a-likes such as the cottonwood borer due to size and coloration, so be sure to take a photo or capture the beetle if you suspect it's ALB.

Please note the beetle is not harmful to pets or humans.

SPOT A KILLER

A mature ALB can range from 1 to 1.5” long, with 3” long antennae. In Asia, ALB is called the “starry beetle” because of the irregular pattern of white spots on the black beetle’s wing covers. ALB also has black and white bands on the antennae and bluish feet.