Asian Longhorn Beetle – Anoplophora glabripennis



Asian Longhorn Beetle (ALB), Anoplophora glabripennis, is a native of China and the Korean peninsula, and poses a serious threat to a wide range of broadleaved trees. It has caused extensive damage to trees in the USA and Italy since being accidentally introduced there in recent years.

In March 2012 a breeding population was confirmed by Forest Research scientists in the Paddock Wood area, near Maidstone in Kent. Fortunately this outbreak was detected before the adult beetle emergence period, which provided time to inspect and deal with infested trees.

Analysis of climate data suggests that most of England and Wales and some warmer coastal areas of Scotland are suitable for beetle establishment.



Don't give pests and diseases an easy ride



If you think you have spotted a new case of this pest in a tree, then report it through the Forestry Commission's online Tree Alert form: forestry.gov.uk/treealert

You can help to slow the spread of this pest by practising good biosecurity.



Think kit

This pest is too large to be moved on kit without noticing. However, regular cleaning and disinfecting tools used on trees is considered to be good practice.



Think transport

Untreated wood packing is a known pathway for Asian Longhorn Beetles. All wood packaging material imported into the EU should be marked to show that it has been treated to reduce the risk of carrying quarantine pests.



Think trees

This pest is regulated, so movement of plants, logs and wood from infested areas is subject to statutory controls.

Symptoms Guide: **Asian Longhorn Beetle**

Distinctive beetles

The adult beetles are large, about 20 - 40mm long and shiny black with variable white markings and long antennae.



Pits

Where the adults lay eggs, there are often oval shaped pits scraped into the bark. On occasion, sap will be visible, bleeding from the damaged areas.



(Photo: Dennis Haugen, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org)



Damage increases as the larvae grow

Galleries may be up to 10 mm in diameter and several cm long. The larvae moult to a pupal stage when they are mature within a well-defined chamber packed with distinctive wood 'shavings'.



Exit holes

Large circular exit holes are made by the emerging adult beetles in the upper part of the trunk and branches. The holes are usually 10 mm in diameter.

Frass

Other signs which might be present, but less obvious, include piles of sawdust at the base of infested trees.



Citrus Longhorn Beetle - Anoplophora chinensis

The Asian Longhorn Beetle is almost identical in appearance to Citrus Longhorn Beetle, another non-indigenous longhorn beetle that threatens trees in Britain.

Exit holes at the base

The Citrus Longhorn Beetle will attack many of the same species of broadleaf trees; however, unlike ALB, it will usually lay its eggs near to the base of host trees.



(Photo: Art Wagner, USDA - APHIS, Bugwood.org)

For more details, please visit www.forestry.gov.uk/asianlonghornbeetle