

Pest Alert: Asian longhorn beetle (*Anoplophora glabripennis*)



Fig 1. Adult Asian longhorn beetle © Crown copyright courtesy Fera Science Ltd.



Fig 2. Larva of Asian longhorn beetle © Crown copyright courtesy Fera Science Ltd



Fig 3. Emergence holes of adult Asian longhorn beetle © Crown copyright courtesy Defra

- A beetle pest from Asia proven capable of establishing in the UK and causing **serious damage to many common deciduous trees**. Several outbreaks in Europe and the USA have mostly been eradicated, but it currently remains under control in parts of France and Italy.
- Detected in imports on several occasions, **mainly associated with wood packaging material made in Asia from untreated timber**. The single UK outbreak detected in Kent in 2012 required the felling of more than 2,200 trees to successfully achieve eradication.
- The adult (**Fig 1.**) is **large, up to 40 mm in length (excluding antennae); black with varying numbers of white spots**; long banded antennae that are as long or longer than the body, and long black legs. Very similar in appearance to the related Citrus longhorn beetle (also regulated).
- Adults feed on leaves and bark. The legless larvae (**Fig 2.**) can be up to 60 mm long and are the most damaging stage, boring into deciduous trees and feeding on the wood for up to 3 years or more **causing dieback and allowing secondary infections; severe infestations can kill an infested tree**. Signs of infestation including the appearance of **sawdust or circular exit holes 10-15 mm in diameter in the branches and upper trunk of the host tree**.

If you suspect the presence of the pest, please inform the relevant authority (see over for details).



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government



Department of
Agriculture, Environment
and Rural Affairs
www.daera-ni.gov.uk



Scottish Government
Riaghaltas na h-Alba

For finds at garden centres, plant nurseries or private gardens in England and Wales, contact your local APHA Plant Health and Seeds Inspector, or the PHSI headquarters, in York:

Tel: 0300 1000 313

Email: planthealth.info@apha.gov.uk

For non-agricultural crops in **Scotland**, contact the **Scottish Government's Horticulture and Marketing Unit:**

email: hort.marketing@gov.scot

For **Northern Ireland**, contact the **DAERA Plant Health Inspection Branch:**

Tel: 0300 200 7847 Email: planthealth@daera-ni.gov.uk

Web: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/topics/plant-and-tree-health>

For finds in the wider environment:

In GB, please use Tree Alert: <https://treealert.forestresearch.gov.uk/>

For NI, please use TreeCheck: <https://www.daera-ni.gov.uk/articles/about-treecheck>

For additional information on UK Plant Health please see:

<https://planthealthportal.defra.gov.uk/pests-and-diseases/uk-plant-health-risk-register/>

<https://planthealthportal.defra.gov.uk/>

<https://www.gov.uk/plant-health-controls>

<http://www.gov.scot/Topics/farmingrural/Agriculture/plant/PlantHealth/PlantDiseases>

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