



Department
for Environment
Food & Rural Affairs

United Kingdom EU demarcated area report

Anoplophora glabripennis (Asian
longhorn beetle)

March 2015 – April 2016



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Introduction

Anoplophora chinensis (Citrus longhorn beetle, or CLB) and the closely related *A. glabripennis* (Asian longhorn beetle, or ALB), are both Annex IAI listed pests in the EU Plant Health Directive 2000/29/EC. As a result they are organisms whose introduction, and spread within, all Member States (MS) is banned.

The EU have also introduced specific emergency measures (2012/138/EU) for *Anoplophora chinensis* and for *A. glabripennis* (2015/893/EU) and the UK's contingency plan for *A. chinensis* forms the basis of the UK response to *A. glabripennis* as well.

Scope of the report

This report sets out for the Commission and other MS the measures taken between April 2015 and March 2016 and future measures the UK intends to take within the demarcated area following the 2012 outbreak of *A. glabripennis* in Kent, South East England. This is the third year of surveillance following the last detection of the pest and completion of host removal at the outbreak site. The report does not include details on the detection of the outbreak, host removal and findings which were reported in the 2012-2013 report.

Location of outbreak

The outbreak detected in 2012 is in Kent in the south-east of England. It is approximately 2km north of the town of Paddock Wood and 50km south-east of the centre of London. Most of the infested trees were found alongside a rural road, but some have also been found on a commercial property and some within domestic properties.

Surveillance

Survey of sentinel trees

Plant Health & Seed Inspectors from the Animal & Plant Health Agency (APHA) surveyed, from the ground the sentinel network of 50 established trees in the 100m to 2.1 Km zone. The composition of these had been adjusted prior to surveillance, to give a more extensive distribution and also included additions of *Aesculus*, *Betula*, *Ulmus* and *Salix spp.* to the list of hosts inspected.

A further 10 volunteer *Acer pseudoplatanus* "trap" trees were planted in the immediate vicinity of the original outbreak, and regularly monitored by Forest Research throughout the summer and autumn period (every 2 weeks April-September; monthly through October to March). No findings of ALB were made.

By spring 2015, regrowth from the cut hedgerow stumps at Paddock Wood had reached a height of 4-5 m and many of stems had a basal diameter of up to 5-8 cm. Evidence suggests, ALB can complete its development in material of this size and it was therefore possible that any residual undetected ALB infestation at Paddock Wood, could utilise this material, leading to re-establishment of a pest population.

The regrowth from the stumps of the most susceptible tree species (sycamore, field maple, poplar, willow & willow) was cut and cleared by trained specialists, and material destroyed by burning. In depth inspections for ALB on the material removed were completed by Forest Research and APHA, which detected no ALB.

Six single stems of sycamore from this cleared hedgerow were selected and retained and will continue to be monitored as further sentinel trees

Pheromone trapping

From July to November 2015, as in previous years ALB pheromone traps were deployed in sentinel trees within the 0 – 2.1 Km zones surrounding the outbreak site, see Annex B The composition of trap lures was also adjusted to reflect new information available. These were checked every 2 weeks, with no findings of ALB.

Winter ground survey 2015-2016

The winter ground survey took place December 2015 to March 2016 covering the 300 – 800m zone around the infested area. During the survey 53 trees from a range of different host species were identified as having suspect symptoms and were tagged for follow up investigation and sampled as appropriate. Information on the range of host species flagged can be found in Figure 1 and the cause of the suspicion in Figure 2. There were 20 cases where it was not possible from the initial follow up investigation to determine a cause of the symptoms and these were subject to further investigation using tree climbers. These investigations have now been completed and there have been no findings of ALB.

Figure 1: The tree species tagged for follow up investigation during the winter 2015 ground survey

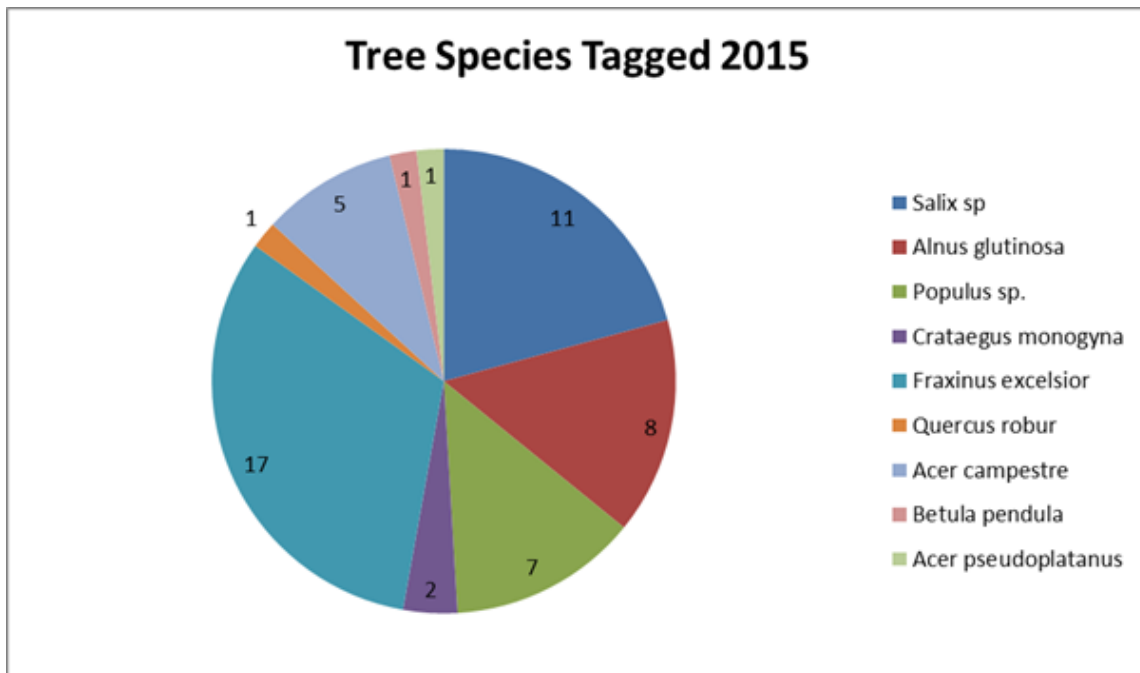
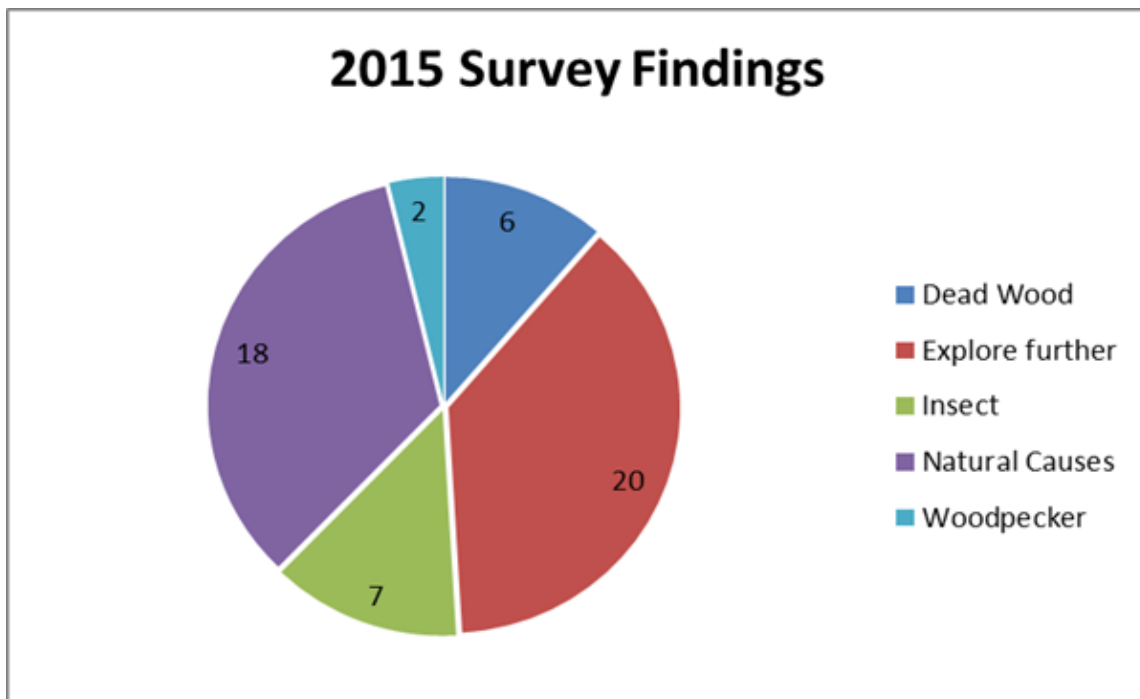


Figure 2: Findings of the 2015 winter ground survey



Tree climbing Survey

A survey of the 100-300m zone was completed using qualified and trained tree climbers. This repeats the exercise undertaken in previous years. During the survey 27 trees displayed symptoms requiring further investigation, subsequent investigations and sampling from those trees confirmed the symptoms were attributable to causes other than

ALB. The tree species and the number of each sampled are reported in Figure 3. The outcome of the follow up investigations into the cause is reported in Figure 4

Figure 3: The tree species and the no. of each sampled during the tree climbing survey

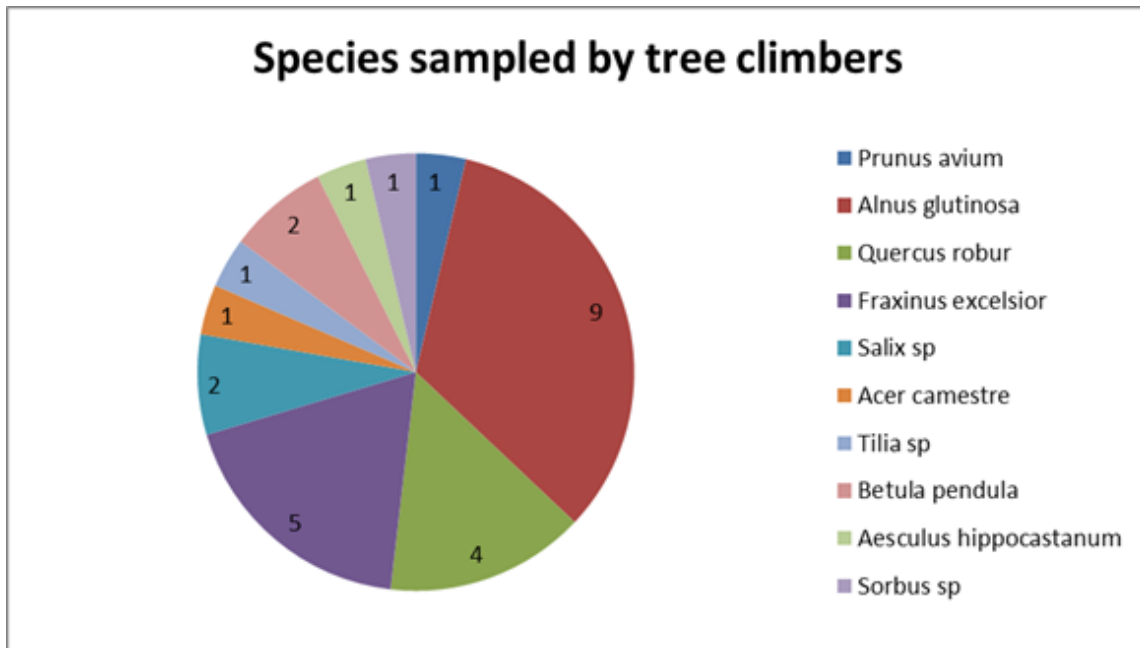
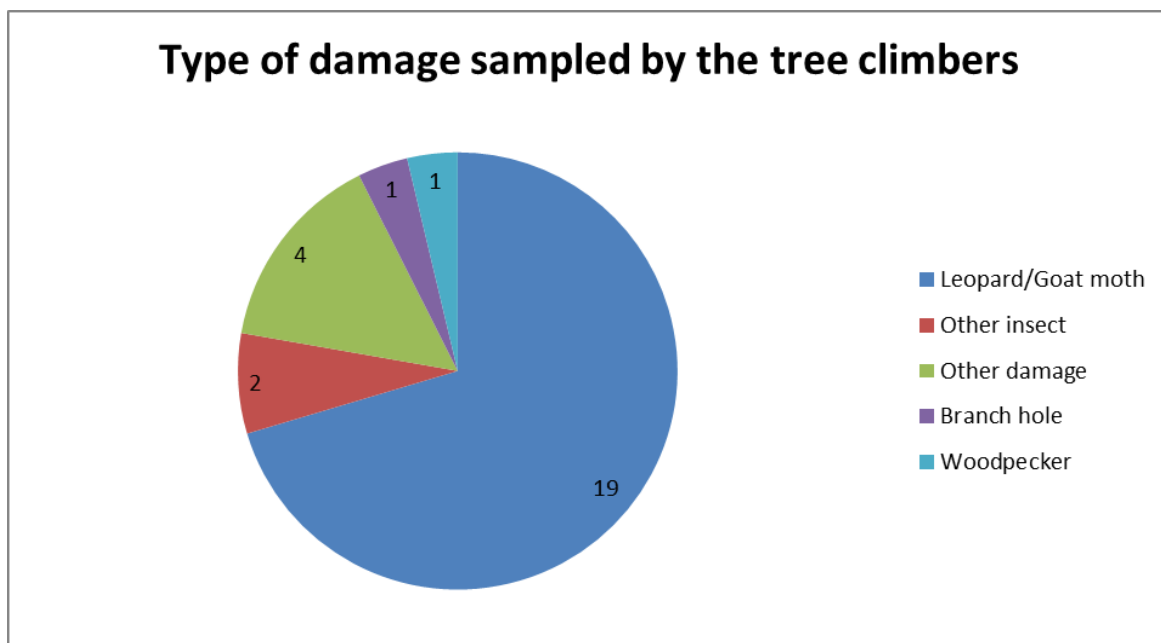


Figure 4: The outcome of investigations into the cause of symptoms identified during the tree survey.



Awareness Campaign

A local awareness raising campaign was completed, prior to the beetle emergence/flight period in June/July. This was delivered by leaflet mailing to 7000 local residents and businesses.

Figure 5: Publicity leaflet issued to local residents prior to the emergence/flight period of the pest.



Further Developments

A further training tool for inspectors, contractors and visitors has been the setting up of an ALB training tree, see figure 6 below. Artificial exit holes were made at various positions in the tree, to enable inspectors to practise surveillance techniques, and to set ALB symptoms in context.

Figure 6: ALB training tree set up for inspectors, contractors and visitors



Annex B

