

PLANT HEALTH NEWSLETTER

NO. 25 (February 2009)

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1. New import controls from 1st April 2009 to guard against the threat from Emerald Ash Borer

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) *Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire is an exotic pest that causes damage to ash trees (*Fraxinus* spp.) and it has recently been introduced to North America, probably via imported wood packaging material from the far-east. The outbreak now established across an area covering more than 5,000 square miles of USA and Canada, 13 counties in south east Michigan as well as neighbouring Essex County, Ontario. Other more localised outbreaks exist elsewhere in Michigan, Ohio and Indiana. EAB is native in China, Japan, Taiwan, Korea, Mongolia and Russia Far East. In July 2007 it was confirmed as established in Moscow.

Whilst the EU introduced ISM15 as a landing requirement for wood packaging material in 2005 to guard against the threat of this and other forestry pests, it has considered that the risk from other pathways including sawn timber, wood chips and isolated bark material also need to be addressed. New import controls have been adopted in EU Commission Directive 2009/7/EC for the following species of wood, wood products and bark where they originate in Canada, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea Russia, Taiwan and USA –

Ash (*Fraxinus* spp.)
Manchurian Walnut (*Juglans mandshurica*)
David Elm (*Ulmus davidiana*)
Chinese or Lace Bark Elm (*Ulmus parvifolia*)
Japanese Wing Nut (*Pterocarya rhoifolia*)



Photo (© Eczerwinski). Adult Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) Beetle. For further details of this forestry pest's natural history see section 4.

An amendment to the Plant Health (Forestry) Order 2005 will implement these new requirements in accordance with Commission Directive 2009/7/EC (OJ L. 40 p. 12., 11.02.2009).

2. Detailed landing requirements for controlled timber species

In order to assist importers in complying with the new import controls we have summarised the special landing requirements and these are provided in the attached tables for information.

3. Remedial action for controlled material that does not meet the new landing requirements

The new requirements apply to controlled consignments which land in Great Britain on or after 1st April 2009. If the controlled material is not accompanied by an official statement (phytosanitary certificate) issued by the National Plant Protection Organisation (NPPO) of the exporting country, or it is found to be infested with EAB, the plant health service will, after consulting the person responsible for the material, issue a statutory notice requiring one of the following remedial action options –

- destruction by burning
- deep burial at a landfill site
- re-export out of the EU

4. Emerald Ash Borer– A Brief Natural History

In China the beetle develops through its full life cycle in one year over most of its range and this appears to also be the case in North America. In colder northern areas of China the cycle can take two years.

Adults appear from mid-May to late July and must feed on ash foliage (Ash is an important broadleaf tree in GB, the second most commonly planted genus and makes up nearly 15% of all broadleaved woodlands). The adults are slender elongated beetles measuring between 7.5 and 13.5mm long and are metallic green in colour. In the UK Common Rose Chaffer beetles (*Cetonia aurata*) have been mistakenly identified as Emerald Ash Borers by members of the general public. Adult female EAB's live for about 22 days and each female produces between 60 and 90 eggs.

Eggs are laid singly or in small clusters into bark crevices and hatch in 7-10 days.

Larvae burrow through the bark after hatching and begin feeding in the living water and nutrient conducting tissues of the tree. They produce sinuous tunnels (known as galleries) as they feed through four larval stages (instars) and reach a final size of 26-30mm long. Feeding tunnels may extend to 20-30cm long. As the larvae grow the galleries enlarge and fill with brown frass and can eventually girdle and kill branches and entire trees. Larvae feed aggressively until temperatures fall in the autumn, after which they spend the winter in the inner bark in thick barked trees or the outer wood where the bark is thinner.

For more details please view a copy of our Exotic Pest Alert poster on our website at –

[http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/epa_emerald_ash_borer.pdf/\\$FILE/epa_emerald_ash_borer.pdf](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/epa_emerald_ash_borer.pdf/$FILE/epa_emerald_ash_borer.pdf)

5. Enquiries

All enquiries relating to this newsletter should be directed to the relevant Plant Health Manager –

Steve Mears, Regional Manager (South) – Tel/Fax: 01507 328275 Mobile 07831 204324 timber imports to Humber, Felixstowe, Ipswich, Thamesport, Tilbury and Southampton, The Wash Ports, South West England, Bristol Channel and South Wales

Dave Tracy, Regional Manager (North) Tel: 01546 602832 Mobile: 0777 180 8513 Fax:0131-3146148 timber imports to Liverpool, Tyneside, North Wales and Scotland

Ian Brownlee, Operations Manager Tel: 0131-314-6480 Mobile 07831 159014 Fax 0131-314-6148

Issued By: The Forestry Commission's Plant Health Service, Silvan House, 231 Corstorphine Road, Edinburgh, EH12 7AT

Tel: 0131-314-6414 **Fax:** 0131-314-6148 **E-mail:** plant.health@forestry.gsi.gov.uk **Website:** www.forestry.gov.uk/planthealth

'Protecting and Expanding Britain's Forests and Woodlands and Increasing their Value to Society and the Environment'

New Import Controls for wood, wood products and bark to guard against the threat from Emerald Ash Borer (W.e.f. 1 April 2009)

Ash (*Fraxinus L*)

Species/Commodity	Country of Origin	Special Requirements
Wood of Ash (<i>Fraxinus L</i>), other than in the form of — chips, obtained in whole or part from these trees, — wood packaging material, in the form of packing cases, boxes, crates, drums and similar packings, pallets, box pallets and other load boards, pallet collars, actually in use in the transport of objects of all kinds, — wood used to wedge or support non-wood cargo, but including wood which has not kept its natural round surface	Canada, China, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, Russia, Taiwan and USA	Official statement that the wood: (a) originates in an area established by the national plant protection organisation in the country of export as being free from <i>Agrilus planipennis</i> Fairmaire in accordance with the relevant International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures; or (b) is squared so as to remove entirely the round surface.

Material typically in Customs Tariff CN Codes 4401 10 00, 4403 10 00, 4403 99, 4404, 4406, 4407 95, 4407 99, 4415, 9406 00 20

Mandshurin Walnut (*Juglans mandshurica*)

Species/Commodity	Country of Origin	Special Requirements
Wood of Mandshurin Walnut (<i>Juglans mandshurica</i>), other than in the form of — chips, obtained in whole or part from these trees, — wood packaging material, in the form of packing cases, boxes, crates, drums and similar packings, pallets, box pallets and other load boards, pallet collars, actually in use in the transport of objects of all kinds, — wood used to wedge or support non-wood cargo, but including wood which has not kept its natural round surface	Canada, China, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, Russia, Taiwan and USA	Official statement that the wood: (b) originates in an area established by the national plant protection organisation in the country of export as being free from <i>Agrilus planipennis</i> Fairmaire in accordance with the relevant International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures; or (b) is squared so as to remove entirely the round surface.

Material typically in Customs Tariff CN Codes 4401 10 00, 4403 10 00, 4403 99, 4404, 4406, 4407 99, 4415, 9406 00 20

Elm (*Ulmus spp*)

Species/Commodity	Country of Origin	Special Requirements
Wood of David Elm (<i>Ulmus davidiana</i>) other than in the form of — chips, obtained in whole or part from these trees, — wood packaging material, in the form of packing cases, boxes, crates, drums and similar packings, pallets, box pallets and other load boards, pallet collars, actually in use in the transport of objects of all kinds, — wood used to wedge or support non-wood cargo, but including wood which has not kept its natural round surface	Canada, China, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, Russia, Taiwan and USA	Official statement that the wood: (c) originates in an area established by the national plant protection organisation in the country of export as being free from <i>Agilus planipennis</i> Fairmaire in accordance with the relevant International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures; or (b) is squared so as to remove entirely the round surface.
Wood of Chinese or Lace Bark Elm (<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>) other than in the form of — chips, obtained in whole or part from these trees, — wood packaging material, in the form of packing cases, boxes, crates, drums and similar packings, pallets, box pallets and other load boards, pallet collars, actually in use in the transport of objects of all kinds, — wood used to wedge or support non-wood cargo, but including wood which has not kept its natural round surface	Canada, China, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, Russia, Taiwan and USA	Official statement that the wood: (d) originates in an area established by the national plant protection organisation in the country of export as being free from <i>Agilus planipennis</i> Fairmaire in accordance with the relevant International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures; or (b) is squared so as to remove entirely the round surface.

Material typically in Customs Tariff CN Codes 4401 10 00, 4403 10 00, 4403 99, 4404, 4406, 4407 99, 4415, 9406 00 20

Japanese Wing Nut (*Pterocarya rhoifolia*)

Species/Commodity	Country of Origin	Special Requirements
Wood of Japanese Wing Nut (<i>ptercarya rhoifolia</i>) other than in the form of — chips, obtained in whole or part from these trees, — wood packaging material, in the form of packing cases, boxes, crates, drums and similar packings, pallets, box pallets and other load boards, pallet collars, actually in use in the transport of objects of all kinds, — wood used to wedge or support non-wood cargo, but including wood which has not kept its natural round surface	Canada, China, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, Russia, Taiwan and USA	Official statement that the wood: (e) originates in an area established by the national plant protection organisation in the country of export as being free from <i>Agilus planipennis</i> Fairmaire in accordance with the relevant International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures; or (b) is squared so as to remove entirely the round surface.

Material typically in Customs Tariff CN Codes 4401 10 00, 4403 10 00, 4403 99, 4404, 4406, 4407 99, 4415, 9406 00 20

Wood Chips

Species/Commodity	Country of Origin	Special Requirements
Wood in the form of chips obtained in whole or part from Ash (<i>Fraxinus L.</i>), Manchurin Walnut (<i>Juglans mandshurica.</i>), David Elm (<i>Ulmus davidiana</i>), Chinese or Lace Bark Elm (<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>). and Japanese Wing Nut (<i>Pterocarya rhoifolia</i>).	Canada, China, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, Russia, Taiwan and USA	<p>Official statement that the wood:</p> <p>(a) originates in an area established by the national plant protection organisation in the country of export as being free from <i>Agrilus planipennis</i> in accordance with the relevant International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures; or</p> <p>(b) has been processed into pieces of not more than 2.5 cm thickness and width.</p>

Material typically in Customs Tariff CN Codes 4401 10 20, 4401 21 00, 4401 22 00, 4401 30 80

Isolated bark

Species/Commodity	Country of Origin	Special Requirements
Isolated bark of Ash (<i>Fraxinus L.</i>), Manchurin Walnut (<i>Juglans mandshurica.</i>), David Elm (<i>Ulmus davidiana</i>), Chinese or Lace Bark Elm (<i>Ulmus parvifolia</i>). and Japanese Wing Nut (<i>Pterocarya rhoifolia</i>).	Canada, China, Japan, Mongolia, Republic of Korea, Russia, Taiwan and USA	<p>Official statement that the isolated bark:</p> <p>(a) originates in an area established by the national plant protection organisation in the country of export as being free from <i>Agrilus planipennis</i> in accordance with the relevant International Standards for Phytosanitary Measures; or</p> <p>(b) has been processed into pieces of not more than 2.5 cm thickness and width.'</p>

Material typically in Customs Tariff CN Codes 4401 30 80 and other relevant CN Codes

**Forestry Commission
Plant Health Service
EDINBURGH
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