

TRAINING RESOURCE MODULES -

MANAGING THE ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE IN THE NORTHEAST

Ver. 1.0



*Training Curriculum Materials for the
Identification of the Asian Longhorned Beetle*

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United States
Department of Agriculture

Forest Service

Northeastern
Area



*ASIAN LONGHORNED BEETLE
TRAINING RESOURCE MODULES*

MODULE D

*DECISION TABLE FOR VISUAL SYMPTOMS IN
TREES AFFECTED BY ALB*



Module D: Decision Table for Visual Symptoms in Trees Affected by ALB

Materials

- 37. Tree ID plates
- 38. ALB ID cards
- 39. Overhead projector
- 40. Extension cord
- 41. Transparency photo of bark
and exit hole

Goal

To provide participants with the correct symptoms of ALB tree infestation.

Objectives

At the end of this module participants will be able to:

- 6. Identify damage caused by ALB on host trees;
- 7. Discern between ALB damage and similar, but unrelated damage in host trees.

Activities

PRESENTATION: Decision table introduction and practice

WORKSHEET: Mini-quiz on damage and symptoms

FIELD EXERCISE: Examine samples for symptoms of ALB damage

Module Length: 0.5 hour

Module D: Decision Table for Visual Symptoms in Trees Affected by ALB

ACTIVITY 1: Presentation

The use of a systematic procedure to assist in the symptoms of trees infested by Asian Longhorned beetle makes it easier to correctly confirm an occurrence of the beetle with confidence. By using a standardized decision table, identification of tree symptoms in the field can be simplified, without discounting accuracy. This will increase efficiency and will enable the timely confirmation of beetle outbreaks.

Using the Decision Table for Symptoms of Trees Invested by ALB, work through each of the questions, answering 'yes' or 'no' to each question. You will note that most of the questions relate to specific characteristics of emergence (exit) holes on infested trees. All of the information contained in the decision table relates directly to the information on the ALB ID cards.

ACTIVITY 2: Inside Lab

The branch samples from infested trees should be used during this exercise, which will test your skill in correctly utilizing the decision table for visual symptoms of beetle infestation.

Take the time to review the table, keeping in mind that this tool will be one of the most useful that you will use in the field. It may seem like an overly simple tool, but its effective use requires careful examination of a tree's branches and trunk, and a thorough understanding of the beetle's life cycle.

While looking at a branch sample of ALB infested wood, review the decision table, taking time to answer each question. Keep in mind that you may be faced with many 'similar' looking symptoms on trees and branches as you work in the field.

ACTIVITY 3: Mini-Quiz on Use of ALB Decision Table

A 5-question mini-quiz is provided to test your skill at using the decision table Visual Symptoms of Trees Affected by ALB. Take 5 minutes to complete the quiz.

Module D: Mini-Quiz
Decision Table for Symptoms of Trees infested by ALB

8. You have been asked to examine White Pine tree that has a series of holes approximately 5/8" round along the trunk in an irregular pattern. Is it an infestation of ALB?
9. You are asked to look at a Horsechestnut tree that has many perfectly round holes, over 1/2" long laid out in perfect horizontal rows around the trunk. Is it an infestation of ALB?
10. You are examining a Maple tree, and you find sawdust at the base of the tree and in some crotches in the tree's crown. Upon closer examination you see holes that are perfectly round and about 1/2" scattered on various branches and the trunk. Is it an infestation of ALB?
11. If you answer 'yes' to any of the questions on the decision table, does this mean that you have found an infestation of ALB?

If you answer 'no' to all of the questions on the decision table, does this mean that you can say that you do not have an infestation of ALB