

ALB situation in Austria – Update September 2013

The first outbreak of *Anoplophora glabripennis* (ALB) in Austria was detected in 2001 in the municipality of Braunau am Inn in the region Oberösterreich. A demarcated area was established and intensive survey and eradication measures were implemented immediately after the detection of the outbreak.

In particular the following official measures were carried out:

- Intensive grid based monitoring in the whole infested area (complete territory of Braunau) with
 - specially trained inspectors,
 - specially trained tree climbers
 - detection dogs
- development of a Computer and GIS based tree cadastral map (about 13.000 trees)
- preventive felling of all potential host trees in the surrounding of hot spots and along roads, railway tracks and small dense growing forests (6 ha and 8 ha)
- in case of positive sampling (morphological and DNA identification) immediate cutting, chipping and incineration of the whole tree
- inspection of hardwood cuttings in the buffer zone
- random monitoring of host trees in the buffer zone

Since June 2009 no new infestation sites and no living stages of ALB were detected in this demarcated area. Therefore in accordance with ISPM No. 8 the pest is now officially declared as eradicated in that area (Braunau).

Pest status for the Braunau area: Absent, pest eradicated

A separate isolated outbreak was detected in the municipality of Geinberg in the region of Oberösterreich at the end of July 2012. Eradication measures were implemented immediately as follows: Establishment of a demarcated area and a clear cut zone (radius 500 m) of all host trees. An intensive monitoring program is being carried out within a monitoring zone radius of 1100 m. The source of the outbreak was wood packaging material used for granite stone imports that was stored at the site of the outbreak.

There is no correlation with the outbreak area in Braunau/Austria (> 20 km distance). In the Geinberg outbreak area only one exit hole and 3 trees with living larvae were found in July 2012. Since that time no further infested trees were detected. The monitoring with detection dogs carried out in May and June 2013 in the buffer zone (monitoring area) confirmed the pest free status.

From a technical and biological point of view the pest status of ALB in that small demarcated area in Geinberg can be seen as “eradicated”. No further exit holes and no trees with symptoms were detected in the buffer zone. All trees in the 500 m clear cut zone were chipped and the material was incinerated. However, the official declaration of the successful eradication can be made only after two complete development cycles (i.e. in total 4 years).

Pest status for the Geinberg area: Absent, pest under eradication

In other parts of Austria infested trees or plants have never been detected.

Pest status for the rest of Austria: Absent, confirmed by survey