

SIREX NOCTILIO, THE NEW YORK STORY

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ABSTRACT

Sirex wood wasp, (*Sirex noctilio* Fabricius), was first identified in February 2005 from a Lindgren funnel trap taken September 7, 2004 in Fulton, NY (Oswego County). We followed the development of the events in New York chronologically from this first identification to the results of an expanded trapping program in 2005.

February 22, 2005—Identity confirmed morphologically at USDA SEL.

March 29, 2005—Phase I: Survey of businesses that could have served as a pathway, identifying 5 out of 86 that import products from outside the United States and three that imported from overseas. (Ethan Angell, NYSDAM). Visual survey of wood packing material conducted.

April 13, 2005—USFS aerial survey of 32 mi² around Fulton to locate areas for further ground survey. (USFS Kevin Dodds).

May 12, 2005—Phase 2: Ground survey of trees, suspect trees tagged. Trees were felled on May 20, 2005 with landowner permission and logs were collected and sent to APHIS/PPQ Otis laboratory for rearing of adults. Larvae were collected for DNA sequencing also.

June 6, 2005—Molecular analysis tentatively identified larvae as *Sirex noctilio*. (Dr. Nathan Schiff, USFS.) Based on this tentative identification trapping survey shifted from detection survey to delimiting survey.

July-October, 2005—Phase 3: Trapping survey begun with 213 traps, which included 154 Lindgren funnel traps baited with alpha pinene, cis-verbenol, ipsdienol and methyl butenol; 28 Cross Vane sticky traps; and 11 intercept traps baited with alpha-pinene plus beta-pinene, and 20 log traps (no bait). All traps suspended 7 feet above the ground (to bottom of trap).

August 1-7, 2005—Survey expanded and 363 more traps were deployed from a 20-mile radius to a 70-mile radius around Oswego.

Trap results showed *Sirex noctilio* to be present in Oswego County and four other surrounding counties in New York state.

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