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# Asian Gypsy Moth

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August 2014

The United States and Canada have received reports of **high population levels** of Asian gypsy moth (AGM) in some countries regulated for AGM. AGM has recently been detected, in some instances in high numbers, on vessels arriving in North America. These detections have led to delayed entry to ports in the United States and Canada and could result in refusal of entry.

This notice is issued as a reminder for vessel operators that, to avoid potential delays to port entry or even refusal of entry in North America, they should:

- **Arrange for AGM inspection, removal of all AGM life forms and certification as close to departure from areas regulated for AGM as possible to avoid re-infestation**
- **Ensure that all vessel activities in regulated areas (e.g. bunkering) are concluded or in the process of being concluded prior to obtaining AGM certification, where possible**
- **Conduct vessel self-checking while en route to North America to remove and destroy all egg masses and other life forms of AGM detected**
- **Ensure vessels are in good repair and decks are clear of debris and unnecessary obstacles to allow for thorough inspection both in AGM regulated areas and upon arrival in North America.**

Additionally, vessel operators are reminded that inspection and certification must be provided by a recognized source of AGM certificates as outlined in Appendix 4 of *D 95-03 Plant protection policy for marine vessels arriving in Canada from areas regulated for Asian gypsy moth* (<http://www.inspection.gc.ca/plants/plant-protection/directives/date/d-95-03/eng/1321945111492/1321945344965>)

And for the United States located in our ship inspection guidelines:

[http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant\\_health/plant\\_pest\\_info/gypsy\\_moth/downloads/ship\\_inspection\\_guidelines.pdf](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/gypsy_moth/downloads/ship_inspection_guidelines.pdf)

Please be advised that, although the U.S. and Canada are fully harmonized on the requirement for AGM pre-departure certification and for vessels arriving free from all AGM life forms (egg masses, pupae, adults), due to sovereign regulations and policies, there are some differences in port-of-entry processes between the two countries. Please contact local inspection authorities in the port of entry if you have any questions regarding AGM import requirements or clearance procedures