

# FIRST DETECTOR NETWORK NEWS



**NPDN**  
National Plant Diagnostic Network



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## Update on Giant African Land Snail Eradication in Miami-Dade, Florida

**Stephanie D. Stocks, Department of Entomology and Nematology, University of Florida**

It has been two years since giant African land snail (*Achatina fulica* or *Lissachatina fulica*) was first detected in Miami-Dade County.

As of August 10, 2013, over 128,000 snails have been collected from 576 properties in 21 core areas at a cost of over \$6 million. In comparison with the 1966 eradication in the same county, they collected over 18,000 snails over a ten year period at a cost of \$1 million.

In addition, the presence of rat lungworm has been confirmed in several of the core areas, though fortunately there have been no reported cases of eosinophilic meningitis in humans related to eating raw or undercooked snails or slugs, frogs or shrimp/prawns. Click [here](#) for a map of the current core areas.

Labrador dogs are also aiding in the eradication effort now. They are being used to help detect populations of this pest in the residential areas. They can distinguish the smell of this invasive snail from other snail species.

The importance of resident participation in reporting snail sightings to state and

federal agencies cannot be emphasized enough. These first detectors are one of the main reasons this eradication effort is going so well. As a result, state and federal agriculture officials are still confident that eradication can be achieved.



Image of a giant African land snail courtesy of Andrew Derksen, FDACS/DPI, [www.bugwood.org](http://www.bugwood.org), # 5444583.

### In This Edition:

- Update on Giant African Land Snail Eradication in Miami-Dade, Florida
- Are We Winning the Fight Against ALB?
- Citrus Canker Detected in Louisiana
- New Educational Material Produced by Protect U.S.

## Are We Winning the Fight Against ALB?

Stephanie D. Stocks, Department of Entomology and Nematology, University of Florida

If you recall Asian longhorned beetle (ALB) was first detected in New York (Brooklyn) in 1996. It then spread to other areas in New York (Queens, Manhattan, Staten Island, Islip, and Amityville). It was also detected in Illinois (Chicago), New Jersey (Hudson, Middlesex, and Union Counties), Massachusetts (Worcester and Suffolk Counties), and Ohio (Clermont County).

In May of this year, USDA APHIS announced that two areas in New York have eradicated ALB. Manhattan and Staten Island join Islip in their successful eradication efforts. Illinois and the three counties in New Jersey have also eradicated ALB.

In New York, only Brooklyn, Queens, and Amityville are still under quarantine. In Massachusetts, Worcester and Suffolk Counties remain quarantined and in Ohio, Clermont County remains in quarantine.

Without the cooperation of state and federal agencies as well as the public, these successful eradication efforts could not have occurred and the current eradication efforts would be doomed to fail. It is vital that First Detectors remain vigilant in their observations and

reporting of any suspicious symptoms or signs of ALB to the appropriate agencies. Please refer to [February edition of the NPDN First Detector Newsletter](#) for more information on signs and symptoms of ALB and keep up the great work.



Image of eradication effort courtesy of USDA Agricultural Research Service Archive, USDA Agricultural Research Service, [www.bugwood.org](http://www.bugwood.org), # 1299015.

### About NPDN:

The NPDN is a network of state and federal officials, land grant universities, and First Detectors whose mission is to detect, diagnose, and disseminate information regarding high consequence plant disease or pests. The NPDN was established in 2002 in response to a need for greater agricultural security.

Over the years, the NPDN has grown into an internationally respected consortium of plant diagnostic laboratories.

The five regions that make up the NPDN are the: [NEPDN](#), [SPDN](#), [NCPDN](#), [GPDN](#), and [WPDN](#).

Please feel free to browse the links to the various regions to get a better idea of what is going on in your part of the country.



## Citrus Canker Detected in Louisiana

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In June, Louisiana found two trees in New Orleans (City Park) that tested positive for citrus canker.

Citrus canker (*Xanthomonas axonopodis* pv. *citri*) is a bacterial disease that causes premature leaf and fruit drop. It can be spread by windborne rain, infected tools (such as landscaping equipment and mowers), people (on hands and clothing), and the movement of infected plants.

Symptoms are brown, raised lesions found on the leaves and fruit. These lesions are surrounded by a water soaked margin and a yellow halo. Older lesions in the leaves can fall out resulting in a shot hole appearance.

This disease affects all citrus, leading to the decline of tree health and eventually leaving the tree unable to produce any fruit at all.

Florida first detected this disease in 1910 (which was declared eradicated in 1933), in 1986 (which was declared eradicated in 1994), and again in 1995. By 2006, it was determined that the disease was too widespread in Florida to be eradicated. Florida is still under a statewide quarantine.

In Louisiana, once the delimiting surveys are complete, USDA APHIS

and Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry (LDAF) will determine quarantine boundaries. In the meantime, Louisiana residents are asked to please notify state or federal agencies if you suspect your citrus tree has citrus canker disease.



Image of citrus canker on leaves courtesy of Yuan-Min Shen, Taichung District Agricultural Research and Extension Station, [www.bugwood.org](http://www.bugwood.org), #5426922.



Image of citrus canker on fruit courtesy of Jeffrey W. Lotz, Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, [www.bugwood.org](http://www.bugwood.org), #1262024.

## NAPPO Phytosanitary Alert System

The **North American Plant Protection Organization's (NAPPO) Phytosanitary Alert System** is featured in this newsletter every month. Remember that this a great resource to keep up to date on the latest pest detections and quarantine information. The website features both official reports and

unofficial alerts of pests for Canada, Mexico, and the United States.

They also have free subscriptions that are available for periodic email notifications of new postings on their website. Be sure to check it out regularly!

## New Educational Material Produced by Protect U.S.

Stephanie D. Stocks, Department of Entomology and Nematology, University of Florida

Protect U.S., the community invasive species network and partner program to NPDN, has released new educational material.

As you may recall, Protect U.S. delivers educational material in three formats: scripted presentations for educators, e-learning online training for clientele (small farm producers, homeowners, master gardeners, etc.), and K-12 lesson plans for teachers.

They have recently released material on Common and Invasive Pests and Diseases of Peaches, Thousand Cankers Disease, and Exotic Pests of Concern for Ornamental Plants.

Be sure to check out their [website](#) for more information.

Over the course of the next year, three more topics will be developed for Protect U.S.: European pepper

moth (*Duponchelia fovealis*), bagrada bug (*Bagrada hilaris*), and kudzu bug (*Megacopta cribraria*).

Bagrada bug will be developed with Dr. John Palumbo (Professor and Extension Specialist, Yuma Agricultural Center, University of Arizona) and colleagues while kudzu bug will be developed with Dr. David Riley (Professor of Entomology, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of Georgia) and colleagues. European pepper moth is being developed with Dr. Amanda Hodges (Associate Extension Scientist, Doctor of Plant Medicine Program Director, University of Florida) and colleagues.

In addition, national pest alerts on all three of these invasive organisms are being developed with Dr. Sue Ratcliffe, Director at the North Central IPM Center.

**Japanese Maple Scale**

Has been found but is limited in its distribution

- *Lopholeucaspis japonica*
- Distribution
  - Asia, South America, Australia, and North America
- Hosts
  - Magnolia, Maple, Euonymus, holly, privet, willow, elm, and Camellia.

protect.us

**Thousand Cankers Disease (TCD)**

Cankers caused by thousand cankers disease

protect.us

**Bacterial Diseases**

- Bacterial spot symptoms on leaves and fruit

protect.us

Examples of the scripted presentations of three topics can be seen here.

There are also online training modules (e-learning) that cover the same material that is found in the presentations.

## Upcoming Meetings:

- September 7-14, 2013 - International Master Gardener's Conference will be held on a cruise to Alaska - click [here](#) for more information.
- September 20-22, 2013 - Missouri Master Gardener State Conference will be held in Springfield, MO - click [here](#) for more information.
- September 26-28, 2013 - Washington State Master Gardeners Conference will be held in Everett, WA - click [here](#) for more information.
- October 4-5, 2013 - Ohio Master Gardener State Conference will be held in Independence, OH - click [here](#) for more information.
- October 8-11, 2013 - Louisiana State Master Gardeners Meeting will be held in Shreveport, LA - click [here](#) for more information.
- October 17-19, 2013 - Texas State Master Gardeners meeting will be held in McAllen, TX - click [here](#) for more information.
- October 20-23, 2013 - Florida State Master Gardeners Conference will be held in Kissimmee, FL - click [here](#) for more information.
- If you would like your meeting listed in the newsletter, let us know.

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## First Detector Training Opportunities:

- November 6, 2013 - First Detector and High Consequence Pest/Pathogen Workshop will be held in Harrisburg, PA - click [here](#) for more information.
- If you are hosting a First Detector Training Session, please post these on the NPDN First Detector Training website so that they can be listed here.

## Employment Opportunities:

- Please click [here](#) for more information.

## Do you tweet?

- Click [here](#) for updates.

You can include a short descriptive paragraph, links, and related images or documents – don't forget to include author and image credits though.



# SPDN