

PEST RECORD - THE NETHERLANDS

Finding of one adult of *Anoplophora chinensis* in a private garden.

1. Introduction

On July 9, the National Reference Laboratory confirmed the identity of an adult of *A. chinensis*. This harmful organism concerned a female specimen and was reported on the same day by the owner of a private garden in a suburban area in the municipality 'Hoofddorp'. In the same garden two exit holes were detected in a *Acer palmatum* with a stem diameter of approximately 5 cm (see picture). The tree was purchased from a wholesale company and planted in May 2009. Approximately three nurseries are located within a distance of 2 km.



Figure 1: *Acer palmatum* in private garden.



Figure 2: One of the two exit holes at the base of the *Acer palmatum*.

2. Phytosanitary risk

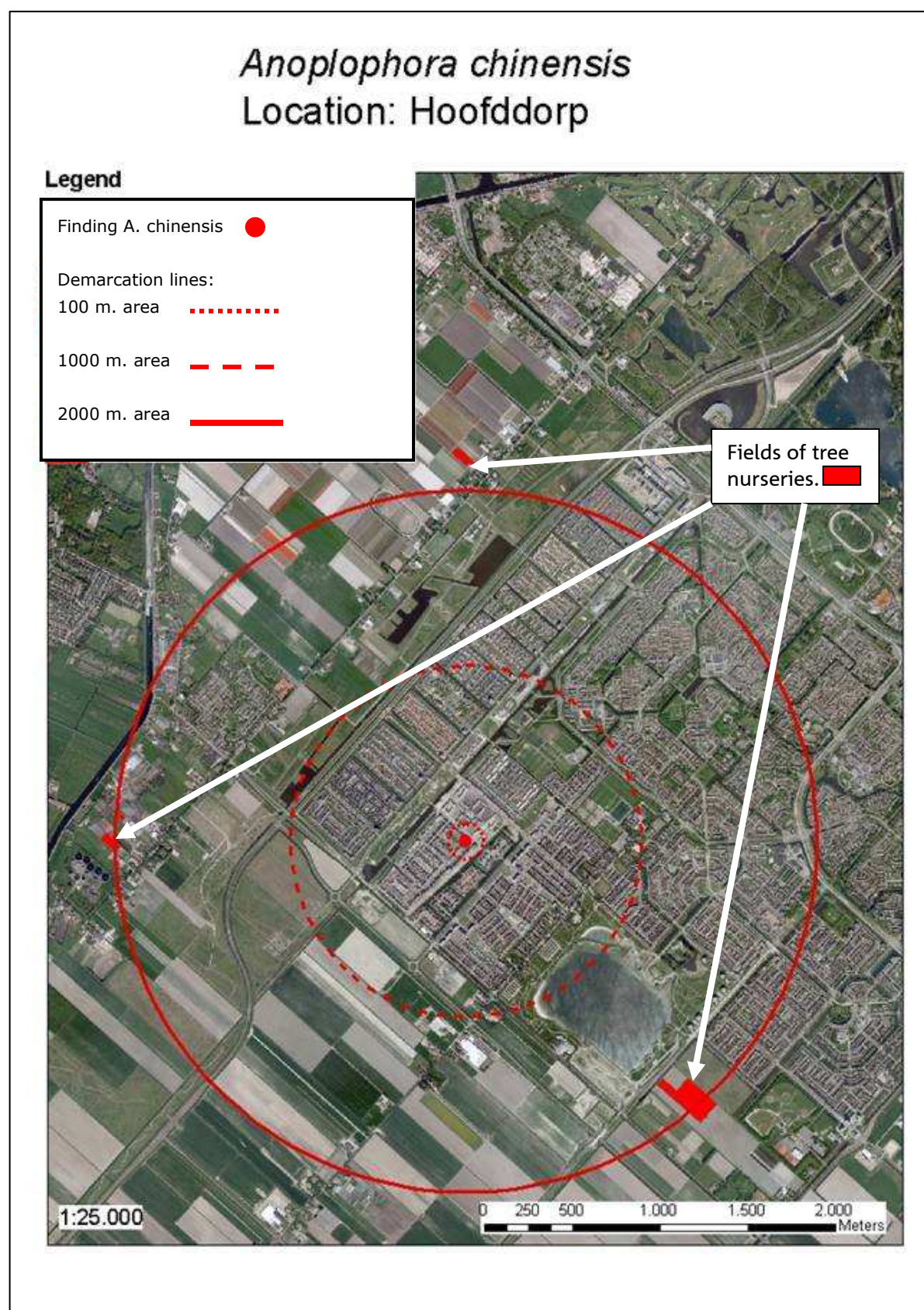
Specific surveillance in the garden and immediate surrounding area was initiated on the same day. On the same tree recent feeding damage was noted. One other *Acer palmatum* tree was noted in the same garden and examined in close detail without showing any signs of the organism. The female beetle must have emerged recently because small bits of frass clung to its body. One exit hole of the *Acer palmatum* was very recent showing bits of frass. The other exit hole appears older, but the exact exit date is still to be determined. Following destruction of the tree no larvae were detected.

The phytosanitary risk for establishment and spread is considered very small. Only one beetle was captured which must have emerged very recently in a suburban area with few tree nurseries in the vicinity. Furthermore the source of the infestation is most likely related to plant material purchased from a garden center and not by natural spread from other plant material in the area itself.

3. Phytosanitary measures

The current emergency measures of the European Community (Commission Decision 2008/840/EC) stipulate that a demarcated area should be defined in case of the presence of *Anoplophora chinensis*. A revision process has been initiated by the European Commission to allow a more tailor-made approach in case of isolated findings, such as covered by this report. Although the risk is perceived as very low, phytosanitary measures include an initial establishment of a demarcated area (see figure 3) with a radius of 2 km surrounding the finding pending revision of Commission Decision 2008/840/EC. Furthermore trace-back of the origin of the infested *Acer palmatum* tree will be carried out to determine the source of the infestation. Other measures include specific surveillance of the entire demarcated area and destructive sampling in case of any signs of the organism. The measures are also targeted at all nurseries which are located partly or entirely within the demarcated area. For the interim, the trade of all 17 plants for planting specified in 2008/840/EC, is blocked for these nurseries pending further investigations.

Figure 3: Aerial photograph of the demarcated area



4. Pest status

Because there is no further evidence of a population of the organism, there is no change of pest status. Therefore the pest status of the Netherlands remains the same as was reported in the last July pest report 2010 (absent – eradicated), following the completion of eradication measures for one incursion reported in January 2008 and one finding reported in January 2010.