



# LOUISIANA MARITIME ASSOCIATION

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**LAMA Circular Number: 10-13**

Issue Date: 09 April 2013

(Please disregard earlier version improperly numbered 9-13)

**SUBJECT: ASIAN GYPSY MOTH;  
USCBP NOLA SOUTHERN CURRENTS 13-004,  
2013 UNITED STATES – CANADA JOINT BULLETIN**

Key Agency: U.S. Enforcement: USDA, USCBP

Effective Date: March, 2013

Louisiana Maritime Association Members;

Attached you will find The U.S. CBP New Orleans Tri-Port Southern Currents 13-004 titled “Revision AGM Reporting”. This document updates Southern Currents 12-013 issued last year. The two changes are:

1. CBP is requesting the last 24 months of the vessel’s port of call data; and
2. CBP has provided updated contact information for its Passenger Analysis Unit (PAU).

----- **Southern Currents 13-004 Excerpt** -----

“CBP is requesting that prior to the arrival of a vessel from foreign in the New Orleans Tri-Port, the vessel master, agent, owner, operator or designee, fax or e-rmail a copy of the vessel's "Ports of Call" list to the CBP's Passenger Analysis Unit (PAU).

- PAU Telephone Number: (504) 623-6620
- PAU Fax: 504-623-6635
- PAU Group E-mail: [pau-msy@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:pau-msy@cbp.dhs.gov)

The vessel "Ports of Call" list will be the list of all ports visited by the vessel over the past two (2) calendar years.

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“Over the past two calendar years” is defined as the last 24 months.

Additionally, you will find the 2013 joint CFIA-USDA Asian Gypsy Moth (AGM) memorandum. This memorandum summarizes requirements for marine vessels that have called upon areas regulated for AGM and are en route North American ports. In 2012 many ships were detected with Asian gypsy moth egg masses. Another year of high populations of AGM in Far East Russia,



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Japan, Korea, and northern China is expected. This table defines the AGM regulated areas and their specific time periods.

Country	Port or Prefecture	Specified Period
Russian Far East	Nakhodka, Ol'ga, Plastun, Pos'yet, Russkiy Island, Slavyanka, Vanino, Vladivostok, Vostochny, Zarubino, Kozmino	July 1 to September 30
People's Republic of China	All ports in northern China, including all ports north of Shanghai	June 1 to September 30
Republic of Korea	All ports	June 1 to September 30
Japan – Northern	Hokkaido, Aomori, Iwate, Miyagi, Fukushima	July 1 to September 30
Japan Western	Akita, Yamagata, Niigata, Toyama, Ishikawa	June 25 to September 15
Japan - Eastern	Fukui, Ibaraki, Chiba, Tokyo, Kanagawa, Shizuoka, Aichi, Mie	June 20 to August 20
Japan - Southern	Wakayama, Osaka, Kyoto, Hyogo, Tottori, Shimane, Okayama, Hiroshima, Yamaguchi, Kagawa, Tokushima, Ehime, Kochi, Fukuoka, Oita, Saga, Nagasaki, Miyazaki, Kumamoto, Kagoshima	June 1 to August 10
Japan - Far Southern	Okinawa	May 25 to June 30

Vessels must arrive to North American ports with required pre-departure certification and free of AGM. It is important that inspection and certification be conducted as close to time of departure as

feasible. It is also of vital importance that a ship's crew ensures freedom from AGM by conducting inspection of the ship superstructure while en route to North America and removing and destroying all life stages of AGM detected.

It is the responsibility of the shipping lines to meet all requirements for entry to the U.S. and Canada for freedom from AGM and other pest concerns.

1. Vessels must be inspected and obtain pre-departure certification from a recognized certification body located in a regulated area and forward a copy of the certificate, stating that the vessel is free of Asian gypsy moth life stages, to their U.S or Canadian agents. The inspections should be performed as close to departure time from the regulated port as possible.



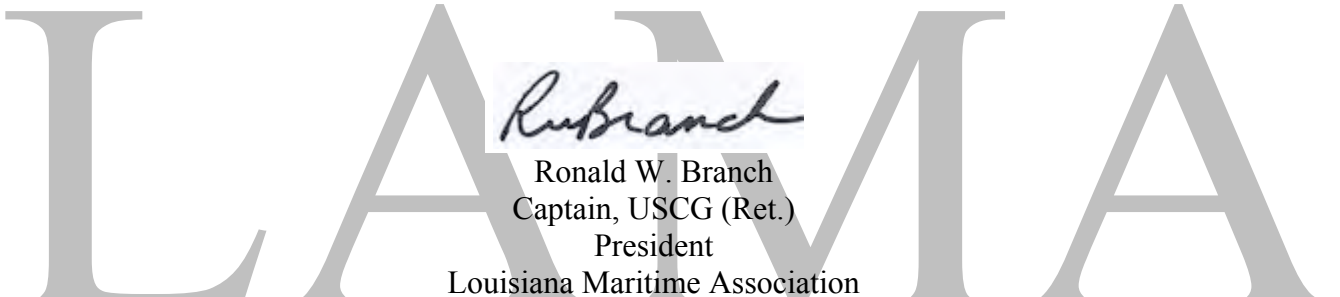
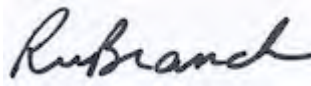
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2. Vessels must arrive to North American ports free from AGM. To avoid facing inspection delays, re-routing and other potential impacts associated with mitigating the risk of entry of AGM to North America, shipping lines should perform intensive vessel self-inspections to look for, remove (scrape off) and properly dispose of or destroy all egg masses and other life stages of AGM prior to entering U.S. and Canadian ports.
3. Vessels must provide the last two years port of call data, at least 96 hours prior to arrival at a North American port, to the Canadian or U.S. agent. The agent will ensure that this information is provided to U.S. and Canadian officials.

Any questions you may have regarding any of this information should be submitted to your LAMA representatives at [ron.branch@louisianamaritime.org](mailto:ron.branch@louisianamaritime.org) or [christine.titus@louisianamaritime.org](mailto:christine.titus@louisianamaritime.org).

  
  
Ronald W. Branch  
Captain, USCG (Ret.)  
President  
Louisiana Maritime Association

Attachments:

1. USCBP New Orleans Tri-Port Southern Currents 13-004.
2. Joint United States Department of Agriculture – Canadian Food Inspection Agency Asian Gypsy Moth Bulletin Dated March 2013.

# *Southern Currents*



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## **Notice to the Area Port of New Orleans Trade Community**

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**Date:** March 26, 2013

**No.:** 13-004

**SUBJECT: REVISION of Southern Currents 12-013: Submission of vessel "Ports of Call" list to CBP prior to arrival from foreign**

### **Purpose:**

This revision changes the time frame of the "Ports of Call" list being requested by CBP from one year to two years and changes the email address for the PAU in New Orleans, LA.

The purpose of this notice is to request from vessel agents a "Ports of Call" list on all foreign arriving vessels to the Tri-Port (New Orleans, Baton Rouge, and Gramercy). This list will ensure that CBP dispatches Agriculture Specialists to inspect all high risk vessels for the presence of Asian Gypsy Moth (AGM) egg masses. This notice will cover CBP's notification requirements.

### **Background:**

The Department of Homeland Security, US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and the Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) have coordinated efforts to prevent the introduction of harmful insect pests into the United States. One such pest is the Asian Gypsy Moth, an extremely invasive species of moth that has not been introduced into the United States and is not currently present in North America. This pest is destructive to the ecology, may feed on over 600 plant species and can seriously affect U.S. agriculture and forest resources. An AGM infestation could result in the defoliation of environmentally important species. Dense populations of AGM could cause economic and environmental damage. AGM is presently known and well established in East Asian ports in China, Japan, South Korea, and Eastern Russia, between 24 and 60 degrees North Latitude. The female AGM deposits egg masses during the high risk flight season between May and October and these egg masses are the most likely life stage to be found on vessels which have visited or transited high risk ports during the AGM high risk flight season.

An AGM find on a vessel may require that the vessel be:

- Ordered into international waters
- Required to undergo treatment
- Re-inspected
- Refused entry

## **Procedures:**

To ensure that CBP dispatches Agriculture Specialists to conduct AGM inspections on vessels which have visited or transited a high risk AGM port during the high risk flight season, obtaining the vessel's "Ports of Call" list prior to arrival in New Orleans will allow CBP to target vessels requiring an AGM inspection and enable Agriculture Specialists to focus on high risk vessels while facilitating the entrance of lower risk vessels.

Currently, vessel "Ports of Call" lists are obtained upon boarding the vessel once in port, and, subsequently, many vessels that do not require an AGM inspection are boarded by an Agriculture Specialist ahead of high risk vessels that require an intensive AGM inspection.

CBP is requesting that prior to the arrival of *a vessel from foreign* in the New Orleans Tri-Port, the vessel master, agent, owner, operator or designee, fax or e-mail a copy of the vessel's "Ports of Call" list to the CBP's Passenger Analysis Unit (PAU).

- **PAU Telephone Number: (504) 623-6620**
- **PAU Fax: 504-623-6635**
- **PAU Group E-mail: [pau-msy@cbp.dhs.gov](mailto:pau-msy@cbp.dhs.gov)**

The vessel "Ports of Call" list will be the list of all ports visited by the vessel over the **past two (2) calendar years.**

## **Suspect AGM Egg Mass Discoveries by Vessel Crew:**

If a suspect AGM egg mass is discovered onboard a vessel before arrival at the Port of New Orleans, the vessel agent/representative should:

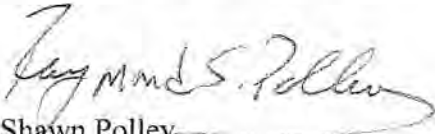
- Inform the captain to have a crewmember carefully scrape off the suspect AGM egg mass with a knife or paint scraper and place the egg mass in a Ziploc bag. **Do not add alcohol.**
- Have the crewmember immediately place the specimen in a refrigerator. **Do not freeze.**
- **Notify the CBP Operations Desk at (504) 623-6600**

A CBP boarding team will be dispatched to the vessel to conduct an AGM inspection. If the Agriculture Specialist determines that the specimen is suspect for AGM, normal AGM protocol will be followed. Once the AGM inspection is complete, the Agriculture Specialist will collect the specimen and submit it to the local USDA PPQ identifier for laboratory analysis.

**Note:** If the suspect AGM infested vessel is diverted to a foreign port before entering the Port of New Orleans, the CBP Operations Desk must be notified and the vessel crew should **place the suspect egg mass in alcohol and/or incinerate the specimen. Never throw a suspect AGM specimen overboard.**

**Effective Date:**

The procedures contained in this notice are effective upon receipt. Please contact Chief CBP Officer Michael J. Ruiz at [michael.ruiz@cbp.gov](mailto:michael.ruiz@cbp.gov) or (504) 623-6651 with questions or concerns.



Shawn Polley  
Area Port Director  
New Orleans, Louisiana



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# Asian Gypsy Moth

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March 2013

Asian gypsy moth (AGM) is a serious pest that can be carried on the superstructure of ships and cargo. AGM populations are prevalent in some seaport areas in Far East Russia, Japan, Korea, and Northern China. If introduced, AGM would pose a significant risk to the North American plant resource base, businesses that rely on plant resources, and to market access. **Vessels must arrive to North American ports with required pre-departure certification and free of AGM.** It is vital that the maritime industry and the United States (U.S.) and Canadian authorities collaborate on measures to minimize the risk of AGM incursion. Although the agricultural agencies of the U.S. and Canada are independent and have variances in their laws, AGM risk mitigation and exclusion efforts are a joint effort and considered a high priority.

In 2012, United States and Canadian authorities intercepted a large number of vessels with AGM egg masses on the superstructures of ships and cargo. Many vessels arriving to North America with AGM life stages present resulted in those vessels being ordered into international waters to mitigate risk of introduction. In all cases of vessels arriving without the required AGM certification, or upon detection of AGM, significant delays in cargo loading or discharging activities as well as in routine clearance can occur, resulting in loss of revenue to the shipping line and associated parties. When these events occur, the vessels are unable to conduct cargo operations, miss cargo charters, and experience significant schedule delays.

In 2012, it was reported that high numbers of AGM adults were flying in some port areas at the time of pre-departure inspections. Inspection certificates indicated large numbers of egg masses had been removed and some ship crews reported removing hundreds of egg masses post-certification. Upon arrival in North America, there were detections on vessels that had obtained pre-departure certification. **In some cases, certification was found to have been issued many days prior to ship departure from an area regulated for AGM, allowing for re-infestation. Therefore, it is important that inspection and certification be conducted as close to time of departure as feasible. It is also of vital importance that a ship's crew ensures freedom from AGM by conducting inspection of the ship superstructure while en route to North America and removing and destroying all life stages of AGM detected.**

The shipping industry has markedly enhanced awareness of necessary quarantine compliance for AGM. This has been vital to maintaining shipping schedules. Both countries are committed to working with industry partners to support measures that will reduce AGM risk at origin. U.S. and Canadian officials seek increased collaboration with shipping lines, agents, and associations in order to mitigate the risk of introduction of AGM while minimizing impacts on trade.

## **Actions**

**For vessels which have called on areas regulated for AGM during the specified periods, as outlined below, the following measures are required:**

<b>Country</b>	<b>Port or Prefecture</b>	<b>Specified Period</b>
Russian Far East	Nakhodka, Ol'ga, Plastun, Pos'yey, Russkiy Island, Slavyanka, Vanino, Vladivostok, Vostochny, Zarubino, Kozmino	July 1 to September 30
People's Republic of China	All ports in northern China, including all ports north of Shanghai	June 1 to September 30
Republic of Korea	All ports	June 1 to September 30
Japan – Northern	Hokkaido, Aomori, Iwate, Miyagi, Fukushima	July 1 to September 30
Japan Western	Akita, Yamagata, Niigata, Toyama, Ishikawa	June 25 to September 15
Japan - Eastern	Fukui, Ibaraki, Chiba, Tokyo, Kanagawa, Shizuoka, Aichi, Mie	June 20 to August 20
Japan - Southern	Wakayama, Osaka, Kyoto, Hyogo, Tottori, Shimane, Okayama, Hiroshima, Yamaguchi, Kagawa, Tokushima, Ehime, Kochi, Fukuoka, Oita, Saga, Nagasaki, Miyazaki, Kumamoto, Kagoshima	June 1 to August 10
Japan - Far Southern	Okinawa	May 25 to June 30

- 1. Vessels must be inspected and obtain pre-departure certification from a recognized certification body located in a regulated area and forward a copy of the certificate, stating that the vessel is free of Asian gypsy moth life stages, to their U.S or Canadian agents. The inspections should be performed as close to departure time from the regulated port as possible.**
- 2. Vessels must arrive to North American ports free from AGM. To avoid facing inspection delays, re-routing and other potential impacts associated with mitigating the risk of entry of AGM to North America, shipping lines should perform intensive vessel self-inspections to look for, remove (scrape off) and properly dispose of or destroy all egg masses and other life stages of AGM prior to entering U.S. and Canadian ports.**
- 3. Vessels must provide two year port of call data, at least 96 hours prior to arrival at a North American port, to the Canadian or U.S. agent. The agent will ensure that this information is provided to U.S. and Canadian officials.**

It is the responsibility of the shipping lines to meet all requirements for entry to the U.S. and Canada for freedom from AGM and other pest concerns. The risk for introduction of AGM into North America from Far East Russia, Japan, Korea, and Northern China is considered to be high for 2013. We strongly urge maritime interests to take all possible precautions.

**Please be advised that, although the U.S. and Canada are in full agreement on the requirement for AGM pre-departure certification and vessels arriving free from all AGM life forms (egg masses, pupae, adults), due to sovereign regulations and policies, there remain 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.**

