

# ACTION ITEM FORM

Subject of Action Item: ***Sirex Noctilio* Biological Control and Quarantine**



Submitted By: **NPB**

Text:

**Background:** Since its 2005 discovery in New York State, *Sirex noctilio* wood wasp has been found in Pennsylvania, Ontario Canada and most recently Michigan. A USDA science advisory panel composed of forest health experts from four countries was formed to provide management and control recommendations. The Science Panel has recognized the high mobility of *Sirex noctilio* and the threat it poses to North American pine resources. The panel recommended a three-part response consisting of survey to delimit the infestation; regulatory action to minimize the risk of artificial spread; and biological control to suppress the population.

Regulating the movement of all high risk articles such as red pine poles and white pine log homes from a quarantine area will more effectively slow the spread of *Sirex noctilio*, and better protect the remainder of North America.

**Requested Action:** The National Plant Board requests that the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture support implementation of the USDA Science Panel's recommendations for control of *Sirex noctilio* (wood wasp), and send a letter of support to the USDA APHIS and to the USDA Forest Service.