

MEMBER ALERT



Shipowners Claims Bureau, Inc., Manager
One Battery Park Plaza 31st Fl., New York, NY 10004 USA
Tel: +1 212 847 4500
Fax: +1 212 847 4599

<https://www.american-club.com>

JULY 17, 2019

ASIAN GYPSY MOTH IN SEASON BULLETIN

The latest USDA/CFIA joint bulletin to shipping Asian Gypsy Moth July 2019 (attached) advises of high population levels of Asian Gypsy Moth (AGM) reported in some regulated countries. The notice also serves as a reminder to vessel operators that AGM flight season is upon us.

Reference is made to the June 2009 issue of [Currents](#), pages 18 and 19, as well as to the Member Alerts (in receding order) of [April 14, 2016](#), [April 21, 2014](#), and [June 1, 2010](#), regarding the Asian gypsy moth and measures to prevent infestation of commercial vessels calling at ports in western North America.

In order to avoid fines, delays, or refusal of entry, your Managers recommend that Members consult region specific Asian Gypsy Moth guidance for inspection and certification prior to arrival to the following ports:

USA and Canada

Vessels arriving in North American ports from any of the regulated areas must be free of AGM and obtain a required pre-departure certification. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) outline the requirements in the joint Asian Gypsy Moth bulletin for Vessels dated [Asian Gypsy Moth](#) issued February 2019, and in the latest bulletin to shipping noted above.

Chile

Chile's Agriculture and Livestock Service, Servicio Agrícola y Ganadero (SAG), requires vessels who have visited one of the regulated areas during a flight period to provide a copy of an official phytosanitary certificate and logbook or list of ports for the past 24 months at least 24 hours prior to arrival. For ports, flight periods and additional guidance in English see [Check The Ship Before your Arrival to Chile](#) and [Lymantria Afiche en Ingles](#).

Australia

Australia's AGM prevention is managed by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources. Vessels which have visited an AGM risk seaport will be required to complete a questionnaire through the Maritime Arrivals Reporting System (MARS) as a part of the pre-arrival report. The vessel will then be notified if a targeted AGM inspection is required

MEMBER ALERT



Shipowners Claims Bureau, Inc., Manager
One Battery Park Plaza 31st Fl., New York, NY 10004 USA
Tel: +1 212 847 4500
Fax: +1 212 847 4599

<https://www.american-club.com>

upon arrival. This process is outlined in industry notice [06-2018 - Commencement of Asian Gypsy Moth Vessel Assessment and Inspection Arrangements 2018](#).

New Zealand

In New Zealand, the Asian Gypsy Moth is considered to be one of two pests of major concern, and its control is managed by the Ministry of Primary Industries (MPI). MPI requires a pre-departure daytime inspection and a valid certificate of freedom from AGM issued by a Recognised AGM Inspection Body [July 2017 List](#), for all vessels that have visited risk areas in their risk period within the last 12 months. Where an inspection cannot be conducted during daylight hours on the day of departure, or where the vessel leaves port at night after a day time inspection, MPI will base its risk assessment of the vessel on other risk factors such as crew conducting en-route risk inspections and removal of any AGM found. For additional guidance on AGM and port risk areas and periods search [Hitchhiker Pests](#) on the MPI website.

BIMCO's AGM clause for time charter parties

Members are recommended to refer to BIMCO's Asian Gypsy Moth Clause for Time Charter Parties 2015 for additional guidance on AGM obligations and responsibilities of owners and charterers.

Should Members have any questions, your Managers will be happy to address them.



Asian Gypsy Moth

July 2019

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.

Possessing a valid certificate in no way precludes a ship from being ordered out of port if AGM is detected.

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 as possible to departure from areas regulated for AGM 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**
- **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 on page 3 of Special Procedures for Ships Arriving from Areas with Asian Gypsy Moth:

https://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/gypsy_moth/downloads/AGM_Procedures.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. For further questions or information, please visit the webpages of both agencies, where contact information can be found for AGM programs.

Canada: <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/plants/plant-protection/directives/date/d-95-03/eng/1321945111492/1321945344965>

U.S.:

https://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/gypsy_moth/downloads/AGM_Procedures.pdf