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US and Canada Release Flighted Spongy Moth Complex (Asian Gypsy Moth) Requirements for 2023

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) have released the specified risk periods for 2023.

The risk periods for the various regions in Far East Asia remain unchanged from the 2022 dates.

However, one specific difference is the change of terminology. The common name “Asian gypsy moth” has been changed as the term “gypsy” has been deemed derogatory. The group of moths making up the AGM complex are now referred to as the flighted spongy moth complex (FSMC).

A summary of the 2023 risk periods are as follows:

Table 1. Regulated Areas and Specified Risk Periods

Country	Port or Prefecture	Specified Risk Period* 2021	Specified Risk Period* 2022-2023
Russian Far East	Nakhodka, Ol'ga, Plastun, Pos'yed, Russkiy Island, Slavyanka, Vanino, Vladivostok, Vostochny, Zarubino, Kozmino	July 1 to September 30	June 15 to October 15
People's Republic of China	All ports in northern China, including all ports on or north of 31°15'	June 1 to September 30	June 1 to September 30
Republic of Korea	All ports	June 1 to September 30	June 1 to September 30
Japan – Northern	Hokkaido, Aomori, Iwate, Miyagi, Fukushima, Akita, Yamagata	July 1 to September 30	June 15 to October 15
Japan – Central/Western	Niigata, Toyama, Ishikawa	June 25 to September 15	June 1 to September 30
Japan – Central/Eastern	Fukui, Ibaraki, Chiba, Tokyo, Kanagawa, Shizuoka, Aichi, Mie	June 20 to August 20	June 1 to September 30
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	May 15 to August 31
Japan – Far Southern	Okinawa	May 25 to June 30	May 25 to June 30

*Specified risk period is the time period when there is a risk of FSMC flight and egg mass deposition

Credit: 2023 CFIA-APHIS Joint Bulletin

For vessels that have called at the areas regulated for FSMC during the specified risk periods, as outlined

in Table 1, the following measures are required:

1. Vessels should be inspected and certificated free of FSMC by a recognized certification body. A copy of the certificate, stating that the vessel is free of FSMC life stages, should be forwarded to the vessel's U.S or Canadian agents. A certificate is valid until the ship calls on another port in a regulated area during the specific risk period. When vessels arrive without FSMC certification, or when FSMC is detected, significant delays in cargo loading or discharging activities as well as in routine clearance can occur.
2. Vessels must arrive in North American ports free from FSMC. To avoid facing re-routing, being ordered out of port for cleaning and other potential impacts associated with mitigating the risk of entry of FSMC 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 FSMC 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 in a North American port, to the vessel's Canadian or U.S. agent. The agent is to ensure that this information is provided to U.S. or Canadian officials.

Further information on the US and Canadian AGM requirements can be [read here](#).

Source of Information: The NorthStandard P&I Club