

CFIA NOTICE

JAPANESE BEETLE DETECTION IN THE FALSE CREEK AREA OF VANCOUVER

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has detected Japanese beetle (*Popillia japonica*) in the False Creek area of Vancouver, British Columbia (BC).

In July 2017, a live beetle was found in a trap that was put out in the City of Vancouver as part of the CFIA's routine annual surveillance activities.

Testing confirmed the beetle to be Japanese beetle (JB). Based on this finding, survey work is being expanded to determine if there are more Japanese beetles in the area. Results of this follow-up survey work to date have determined that there is a Japanese beetle incursion in the False Creek area and delimitation surveys are underway to determine the spread of the pest.

The response to the detection of Japanese beetle from the CFIA and its partners will be determined once surveillance activities have been completed in the Fall.

If there were to be a change in the JB regulatory status for BC from pest-free to infested it would not pose a trade barrier, but it could increase industry production costs by requiring regulated articles to be treated prior to export to pest-free areas in the United States.

There may also be significant costs associated with damage to grass, flowers and trees in parks and private properties.

At this point there are no impacts on exports or trade of host plants the beetle impacts. The CFIA will be formally notifying relevant export/trading partners as required.

Japanese beetle is not a risk to human health or food safety, but is a highly invasive pest that attacks the roots, leaves and fruit of a wide variety of plants, crops and trees.

It is not known at this time how the Japanese beetles came into BC. However, the Japanese beetle may have been introduced through the movement of nursery and greenhouse stock, infested soil from regulated areas or via airplanes, rail cars or other vehicles from areas where the pest is established.

The CFIA is currently using a trap with components attractive to Japanese beetle for its surveillance efforts. There are no pesticides in the traps. The traps are visible to the public and they are labelled with a description of the trap and its purpose in order to deter interference and proactively address questions that the public may have.

For more information about Japanese beetle please visit the CFIA's website at <http://inspection.gc.ca/JB>.

For information, calls or queries about the CFIA's traps, surveillance work, or the pest itself, please call **604-292-5742**.

The public are asked to report any sightings to the CFIA at this number or through the web site