Discussion

The scientist thinks more studies are needed to better understand the dispersal of Asian long-horned beetles. Although he found that most females did not move from the tree that they were released on, one of the females traveled more than 30 meters in a little more than a week's time. If the female beetles are not ready to lay their eggs as they probably were in this study, they may travel longer distances. As a dangerous pest of American trees, even just a few females traveling 30 meters in a week's time could pose a threat. ■

Reflection Section

- In what way could a few female beetles traveling 30 meters pose a threat to American trees?
- From the results of this study, what might you conclude about the dispersal of Asian long-horned beetles?

From Williams, D.W.; Li, G.; Gao, R. 2004. Tracking movements of individual *Anoplophora glabripennis* (Coleoptera: Cerambycidae) adults: application of harmonic radar. *Environmental Entomology.* 33(3): 644–649.

FACTivity

In this FACTivity, you will participate in a "rapid response" exercise. You will pretend you are scientists responding to the news of an Asian long-horned beetle invasion in your town. The method you will use is as follows:

Students will work in pairs. Each pair represents a team of entomologists who are studying the Asian long-horned beetle. Your team has just been contacted by the Department of Homeland Security. A citizen has called with a report of an Asian long-horned beetle. After doing some research, the Department of Homeland Security has traced the beetle to a shipment of goods from China. The beetle arrived in a shipping crate. It is unknown how many other beetles might be loose in your town. All that is known is that the shipment of goods from China arrived in your community 15 days ago.

Your team has been asked to help stop the spread of the Asian long-horned beetle. Using the data from this study, develop a plan for stopping the spread of the beetle. To refresh your memory, reread the "Thinking About the Environment" and "Introduction" sections. Also, you may want to review the "Findings" and "Discussion" sections.

Each team should develop a written plan for destroying the Asian long-horned beetle. You may want to use visual aids as well. Each plan should include reasons for each action based on information from this article or from other sources about the Asian long-horned beetle. Each team should present its plan to the class.

Following the presentations, hold a class discussion about the various plans. How were they similar? How were they different? The class may want to vote on the best plan for destroying the Asian long-horned beetle.

If you are a Project Learning Tree-trained educator, you may use PLT Pre K–8th Activity Guide #8, "Forest of S.T. Shrew," and Activity Guide #22, "Trees As Habitats," as additional activity resources. These activities guide the study of microhabitats and introduce trees as insect habitat.