

**INLA**  
IOWA NURSERY &  
LANDSCAPE  
ASSOCIATION

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LANDSCAPE  
ASSOCIATION**

**NEWS**

**55th Annual Iowa State University Shade Tree Short Course and  
Iowa Nursery & Landscape Association Conference and Trade Show**

*February 23-25, 2011*

**IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY**  
University Extension



Inside this issue

Shade Tree Short Course & INLA Conference & Trade Show at a Glance.....2

Iowa Certified Nursery Professional Certification Exam...2

Iowa Takes an Ax to Ash Trees.....3

What Happens in Washington Doesn't Stay in Washington!.....4

Implications of State & Local Immigration Legislation.....4

Iowa State's annual Shade Tree Short Course has teamed up with the Iowa Nursery and Landscape Association again in 2011! The program highlights the best of both worlds incorporating INLA's long-standing trade show into the traditional Shade Tree Short Course educational sessions.

All events take place at the Scheman Building on the campus of Iowa State University unless otherwise noted.

**INLA has reserved a block of rooms for members and exhibitors attending the Shade Tree**

**Short Course and INLA Conference and Trade Show. The rooms are reserved at the Hilton Garden Inn (1325 Dickinson Avenue, Ames, IA). The room rate is \$104/night (plus tax). If you would like to reserve a room, please call the Hilton Garden Inn at 515.233.8000. Make sure to indicate that you are wanting to reserve a room within the INLA block in order to receive the discounted rate.**

**A registration brochure is attached.** Please call the INLA office at 515.262.8323 or 800.383.1682 with any questions you may have.

**USDA Reports Increased Diversification in Horticulture Operations**

The sales of food crops grown under protection in the United States more than doubled in the last decade as U.S. horticultural operations are becoming more diverse and taking advantage of newly emerging agricultural trends, according to results of the 2009 Census of Horticultural Specialties released in December by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

"Despite the recent economic downturn, the U.S. horticulture industry as a whole is showing resilience by increasing diversification of the products produced," said Joe Prusacki, NASS Statistics Division director. "Food crop production has shown the largest growth in this sector of agriculture, possibly a link to increased consumer interest in fresh fruits and vegetables."

The sale of food crops grown under protection, including fruits and vegetables in hothouses, as well as transplants for commercial vegetable production increased 149 percent since the last time the census of horticulture was conducted in 1998. In 2009, growers reported \$553 million in sales of food crops grown under protection, up from \$223 million. Total sales of transplants for commercial vegetable production increased from \$156 million

to \$331 million during this same period.

"Overall, total sales of horticultural crops between 1998 and 2009 increased by 10 percent to \$11.7 billion," added Prusacki. "Looking at the entire agricultural industry however, this 10-percent increase lags behind the 60-percent increase seen for all agricultural crop commodities during this same time period."

The census results also show a more than average sales increase for bedding plants, nursery stock and propagative materials. A downturn in sales however was documented for cut flowers down 21 percent, foliage plants down 14 percent and cut Christmas tree sales down 3 percent.

The Census of Horticultural Specialties provides the only comprehensive, detailed data on U.S. floriculture, nursery and specialty crop production at the national and state levels. It provides information on the number and types of establishments, value of sales, varieties of products, production expenses and more. Complete results of the 2009 Census of Horticultural Specialties are available online at [www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov).

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## Shade Tree Short Course and INLA Trade Show Conference at a Glance

All events will take place at the Scheman Building – Iowa State University Campus – Ames, IA unless otherwise noted.

### Wednesday, February 23, 2011

#### **INLA Day at the Shade Tree Short Course**

The Iowa Nursery & Landscape Association will host an entire day especially designed for INLA members. The day will feature Iowa Certified Nursery Professional (ICNP) certification testing and a continuing education program for current ICNPs.

#### **Become an ISA Certified Arborist**

Once again in 2011, the ISU Shade Tree Short Course will host an International Society of Arboriculture Certification exam. STSC participants wishing to take the exam should register online with the ISA (<http://www.isa-arbor.com/certification/certification.aspx>) or call the ISA at 217-355-9411. The application deadline is February 7, 2011.

- 8:00 – 12:00 (Noon) **Iowa Certified Nursery Professional (ICNP) Testing**
- 10:00 – 12:30 p.m. **INLA Committee Meeting and Lunch**
- 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. **ICNP Continuing Education**
- 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. **ISA Certified Arborist Exam**
- 1:00 – 5:00 p.m. **Trade Show Set-up**

### Thursday, February 24, 2011

- 7:30 – 9:15 a.m. **Registration, Refreshments, and Visit Trade Show**
- 9:15 a.m. **Opening General Session (C.Y. Stephens Auditorium)**
- 9:15 – 9:30 a.m. **Welcome and Announcements, Donald Lewis, Iowa State University**
- 9:30 – 10:30 a.m. **In Praise of Noble Trees – Michael Dirr, Athens, GA**
- 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. **Balancing Natives and Exotics in the Garden – Rick Darke, Landenberg, PA**
- 11:30 – 1:00 p.m. **Lunch, Visit Trade Show, and INLA Business Meeting**
- 1:00 – 2:00 p.m. **Workshop Session A**
- 2:15 – 3:15 p.m. **Workshop Session B**
- 3:15 – 4:00 p.m. **Break and Visit Trade Show**
- 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. **Workshop Session C**
- 4:15 – 5:30 p.m. **INLA Past Presidents Reception (Invitation only) – Reiman Gardens**
- 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. **Iowa Arborist Association meeting**
- 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. **Hospitality Reception (Open to all attendees) – Reiman Gardens**
- 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. **Dinner and Scholarship Auction (Open to all attendees/\$30) – Reiman Gardens**

### Friday, February 25, 2011

- 7:30 – 8:30 a.m. **Refreshments and Visit Trade Show**
- 8:30 – 9:30 a.m. **Workshop Session D**
- 9:45 – 10:45 a.m. **Workshop Session E**
- 11:00 – 12:00 (Noon) **Workshop Session F**
- 12:00 (Noon) – 1:15 p.m. **Lunch (optional/ticket required) or on your own**
- 1:15 – 2:15 p.m. **Workshop Session G**
- 2:30 – 3:30 p.m. **Concluding General Session (Benton Auditorium)**
- **Where Have All the Trees Gone? Long Time Passing – John Ball, South Dakota State University, Brookings, SD**
- 3:30 – 3:45 p.m. **Evaluation**
- **Adjourn**

## Iowa Certified Nursery Professional Certification Exam

**Wednesday, February 23, 2011**

The winter testing date for the Iowa Certified Nursery Professional exam is Wednesday, February 23, 2011 at the Scheman Building on the campus of Iowa State University. The testing will be held on the INLA Day which is part of the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Iowa State University Shade Tree Short Course and Iowa Nursery & Landscape Association Convention and Trade Show. The identification exam will be from 9:00-10:00, followed by the Landscape and Garden Center written exams from 10:30-11:30.

Online training modules are available to INLA members who wish to prepare for the certification exams. These modules replace the printed training manuals which were used in the past.

Eight of the modules cover plant identification including the categories of: annuals, conifers, deciduous trees, groundcovers, herbaceous perennials, perennial grasses, shrubs and vines. The remaining twelve modules cover the general topics addressed in the certification exam such as: Plant Identification and Characteristics; How Plants Work: Growth and Development; Rooting Environment and Fertilization; Selection, Installation and Establishment of Landscape Plants; Turfgrass Establishment and Management; Management of Turfgrass Diseases and Insect; Introduction to Plant Diseases and Insects; Diagnosing Plant Problems; Managing Plant Diseases and Insects; Garden Center Management; Landscape Design; and New Employee Training and Professionalism.

The 12 general topic modules each contain a list of objectives, an image rich PowerPoint presentation with accompanying

audio which is searchable by topic and has printable notes, self-test exercises, and online quizzes with immediate feedback to help learners test their understanding of the content.

#### **Testing Information**

The plant ID portion of the exam will consist of identifying 50 plant specimens (common name and scientific name). Plants on the exam will come from the plants included in the modules. There will be a combination of perennial and woody specimens to identify, and this will be done via slides and cut specimens.

The Landscape and Garden Center exams will be offered concurrently, and there is ample time in the 2 hours for those of you who are taking both of these exams.

Each exam consists of 50 True/False questions and 65 Multiple Choice questions. Exam questions are created from the content covered in the modules and from general work experiences.

To access the modules go to the Green Industry Resource site at: [www.extension.iastate.edu/nurseryandlandscape/](http://www.extension.iastate.edu/nurseryandlandscape/). From there click on the Online Training Modules on the left side menu and follow the directions. The current login for INLA members is: w.INLA2008 and the password is: INLA2008.

To register for the exam contact Joan O'Brien at the INLA office by calling 1-800-383-1682 or via e-mail at [joano@agribiz.org](mailto:joano@agribiz.org).

If you have any questions, comments or feedback about the modules, please contact Ann Marie VanDerZanden at [vanderza@iastate.edu](mailto:vanderza@iastate.edu) or (515) 294-5075.

# Iowa Takes an Ax to Ash Trees

Written by: Perry Beeman & Jason Pullman, Des Moines Register, January 6, 2011

Iowa cities and park managers have started the long, costly process of ridding Iowa of ash trees threatened by a seemingly unstoppable pest.

In some cases, they are cutting down healthy ash trees, perhaps years before the emerald ash borer spreads across Iowa from Allamakee County, in far northeast Iowa. The tree-eating beetles were found there last year, on a Mississippi River island.

Crews are focusing mostly on young, damaged and ill trees, using the latest threat as a reason to get a harder mix of trees along city streets and in parks.

Ash trees already have met chain saws in Des Moines, at Iowa State University in Ames and at Saylorville Lake campgrounds in recent weeks. Cedar Rapids is getting ready.

At an average cost of \$1,500 per tree for removal, cities and park managers face a huge tab. Costs for removing ash trees could climb to \$15 million in Des Moines alone.

Starting removals now is part of a strategy to spread costs over time while increasing forest diversity, said state entomologist Robin Pruisner of the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship.

"It's all about eating the elephant one bite at a time," Pruisner said. "Cities need to do an inventory of ash trees first. If they have a lot of ash trees, it might be best" to remove some now.

By starting the process early, "the new species will get some size, both for shade and aesthetics, instead of having a city where all the trees are gone," Pruisner said.

Getting a jump on removals also will help avert the possibility that large numbers of diseased trees will pose public safety issues and overwhelm workers, said Emma Bruemmer, urban forestry coordinator for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources.

Staggering the growth of replacement trees also is intended to help avoid a hole-in-the-smile look like the 1960s Dutch elm disease outbreak caused.

Back then, public works crews often planted the fast-growing, shade-producing ashes to replace elms. In the average Iowa town, 12 percent of the trees along roads are ashes.

The Department of Natural Resources has inventoried ash trees in more than 60 small towns, in part with a federal grant. The percentage of ash trees along streets can range from zero to 60, Bruemmer said. More inventories are planned.

## Tree losses will mean big economic losses

Pruisner said it is highly likely all ash trees in Iowa will die at the hands of the beetle, which burrows under the bark and cuts off a tree's food supply.

"As of right now, there is nothing on the horizon that shows any promise of stopping or drastically slowing down the emerald ash borer," Pruisner said.

Much of Iowa's forest includes ash trees, which also are common in city parks. The state estimated there are 52 million ash trees in Iowa's 3 million acres of forest, and 88 million altogether.

The expected loss of ash trees represents a huge economic loss to the state. The trees will have to be removed and replaced, and their shade and value for wood will be lost. Some will be lost altogether for wood, or the wood will have to be treated before a sawmill can sell it.

The loss of an estimated 3.1 million urban ash trees in Iowa could

cost cities \$7.3 billion for removal, replacement and lost landscape value, the natural resources department said.

The state economy also would lose \$330 million because of the loss of ash trees for sawmills, the department reported.

The first confirmed sighting of the beetles in Iowa came last May. They're probably munching elsewhere in the state now, Pruisner said.

Often the borers are busy cutting off the trees' food supply for five years before they are detected, despite the state's system of traps and trees purposely damaged to see whether the beetles show up.

The borer, which has devastated forests in Michigan and other states, can fly only a few miles but is easily spread via firewood.

## Sampling of actions by Iowa cities, counties

In Des Moines, Public Works Director Bill Stowe said the city removed about 40 young ash trees in the Brook Run neighborhood in northeast Des Moines. There are an estimated 10,000 ash trees in public parks and along city streets.

City crews will replace ash trees with other species as removals continue, Stowe said. "It will be very selective and focused on younger trees where we can easily get in and out and plant a replacement tree without a lot of canopy loss."

Targeting young, small trees is less costly, too.

City Councilman Skip Moore wants to spread the financial pain over many years. Moore, who retired as Des Moines' longtime forester after he was elected in December 2009, said he sees no choice.

Cedar Rapids plans to cut down more than 300 ash trees over the next three months. The city has identified 520 trees at 440 sites that need to be removed. Altogether, the city has 9,000 to 12,000 ash trees along city streets, plus those in parks.

Iowa State University removed several dozen ash trees in a bid to reduce its concentration from 20 percent of campus trees to 8 percent, Bruemmer said. The trees will be replaced with other species.

At Saylorville, crews are cutting down selected ash trees, even healthy ones, in part because they account for 40 percent of the trees at some campgrounds, said forester Brian Nail. It would mean less shade later if they aren't replaced now.

Polk County found about 775 ash trees in high-use areas such as parks, campgrounds, golf courses. About 10 percent already have been cut down, said Mark Dungan, natural resources manager for Polk County Conservation.

Ankeny passed a moratorium on ash tree planting two years ago, said Todd Redenius, parks and recreation director. The suburb plans to cut down some ash trees before the borer's arrival.

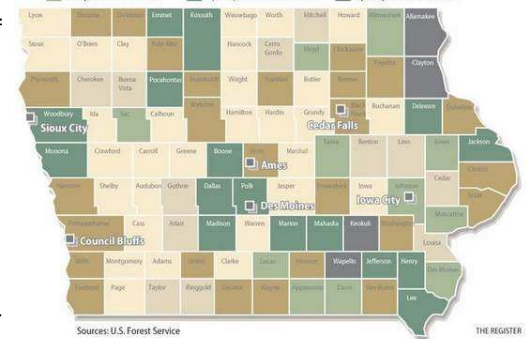
This article can be found at: <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/201101060405/NEWS/101060331>.

## Distribution of ash trees in Iowa

There are an estimated 88 million ash trees in Iowa. How they are found across the state:

KEY: 0 to 5,000 5,001 to 50,000 50,001 to 500,000

500,001 to 1 million 1,000,001 to 2.5 million 2,500,001 to 5 million



# What Happens in Washington Doesn't Stay in Washington!

What 'Washington Impact' should green industry employers expect from the new Congress and the Obama administration?

Attached with the January INLA Newsletter is a post 2010 election summary/analysis from the American Nursery and Landscape Association's government affairs staff.

## Implications of State & Local Immigration Legislation *An Issues Brief from the Iowa Immigration Education Coalition*

An attempt to regulate immigration law at the state level would have a number of negative consequences for Iowa. Because the federal government alone has the power to make and enforce immigration laws, state and local laws have resulted in litigation and significant costs of defense. The cost of implementation and the potential damage to Iowa's economy and welcoming reputation must also be considered in determining whether these laws are in Iowans' best interest.

### **FEDERAL PREEMPTION AND LEGAL CHALLENGES**

#### **The federal government controls immigration law.**

- State-by-state immigration legislation increases costs for localities and reduces federal ability to effectively enforce immigration laws. It also focuses federal resources on non-violent immigrants and overburdens local jails and police.
- Access to public education (K-12) and emergency medical

#### **State & Local immigration laws will result in costly legal challenges.**

- Litigation costs for Arizona's SB 1070 have exceeded \$1 million thus far.
- Fremont, Nebraska, officials repealed an immigration ordinance when it was revealed to be too costly (est. \$750,000 per year).
- The city of Hazelton, Pennsylvania, was ordered to pay \$2.4 million toward the plaintiff's attorney fees after the city's immigration ordinance was ruled unconstitutional.

#### **Local immigration policies are costly to implement.**

- \$2 million annually to implement Colorado's state-level immigration law.
- \$14 million over five years to implement county-level immigration ordinance in Prince William County, Virginia.

### **ECONOMIC DYNAMISM AND POLITICAL POTENCY**

#### **State-based immigration legislation would be harmful to Iowa communities and businesses.**

- Elliott D. Pollack & Company found that fallout from Arizona's SB 1070 led to losses in the convention industry alone that totaled \$141 million in direct spending. Over two to three years, the study projects additional losses of \$253 million in economic output and over \$86 million in lost wages.
- It is estimated that if all undocumented immigrants were removed from Iowa, the state would lose \$1.4 billion in expenditures, \$613.4 million in economic output, and approximately 8,819 jobs (Perryman Group).
- The Iowa Policy Project estimates that undocumented immigrant families pay between \$40 and \$62 million in state taxes per year.

#### **Immigrants and immigrant labor are of vital importance to Iowa's economy.**

- Immigrants are 30% more likely to start businesses than native-born residents

- Immigrants comprise 4.5% of Iowa's workforce and a substantial portion of workers in the service and production industries.
- According to the American Farm Bureau, the current agricultural worker shortage could decrease national agriculture production by between \$5 billion to \$9 billion. Many agricultural sectors are heavily dependent on immigrant labor.

#### **Immigration has accounted for all population growth in Iowa in the last decade.**

- Iowa's population is growing slowly (among the slowest nationwide) and is aging. This has resulted in a loss of Congressional representation and will contribute to an impending labor shortage in the coming years.
- Latinos are the largest and fastest-growing minority group in Iowa and an increasingly important segment of the electorate both in Iowa and nationwide.

The Iowa Immigration Education Coalition is a multi-perspective group of business, labor, civil rights, religious, immigrant, education, social service, government, and other community leaders united for the purpose of providing Iowans with relevant and timely information about immigration issues and their impact on Iowans and their communities.

For more information on the Iowa Immigration Education Coalition, please visit our website:

[www.iowaimmigrationeducation.org](http://www.iowaimmigrationeducation.org).

### **IIEC Member Training Summit & Webinar**

Want to learn more about immigration policy? Want to help educate Iowans about the issues?

Join the Iowa Immigration Education Coalition for our Member Training Summit on **Friday, January 21, from 1:30-4:30 PM**. Join us in person or via webinar.

#### **IMMIGRATION TRAINING – WEBINAR (1:30 – 3:00 PM)**

State of Play:

IIEC Steering Committee members, Jay Byers (Greater Des Moines Partnership) and Alicia Claypool (Iowa Civil Rights Commission), will provide a rundown of the current legislative climate and insight into what the future holds from a policy perspective. This includes Arizona-type laws, 14th Amendment challenges, public benefits verification, E-verify, employer sanctions, and more.

#### **MEMBER MEETING | OPEN FLOOR DISCUSSION (3:00 – 4:30 PM)**

Geof Fischer, IIEC Project Coordinator, will provide an update of the IIEC's current activities and an overview of our resources.

For more information and to register for the webinar, please go to: <https://www3.gotomeeting.com/register/955909814>.