



NRC Rescinds Proposed Regulations to Reduce Antlerless Deer Tags

The Iowa Nursery and Landscape Association recently sent comments to the DNR and Governor's office on behalf of our members regarding proposed regulations to reduce antlerless tags.

does not have any references to changes in the antlerless quotas.

If all proceeds as expected, there will be no change from last year in the quotas.

There will also be a public hearing on June 21, 2011 at 1:00 p.m. in the auditorium on the second floor of the Wallace State Office Building.

If you have any questions, please call the INLA office at 515.262.8323 or 800.383.1682 or email Joan O'Brien at: joano@agribiz.org. Members may also contact Linda Grieve with Perennial Gardens at 515.964.7702 ext. 101 or via email at: lindagrieve@perennialgardens.biz.

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After hearing concerns from the INLA, INLA members, and additional trade organization, Governor Branstad told the DNR to revise their antlerless deer tag plans.

Last week in a close 4-3 vote, the Natural Resources Commission (NRC) rescinded their Notice of Intended Action (NOIA) which proposed to reduce antlerless tags. Commissioners then approved a new NOIA on a 5-2 vote. The new NOIA

Iowa Uses Planes, Chemical Weapons to Battle Moth

Written by: Matt Kelley, Radio Iowa, May 25, 2011

The state of Iowa plans to employ the use of chemical weapons to try and protect our environment from a highly-destructive enemy swarming at the border — the gypsy moth. State entomologist Robin Pruisner says the winged, brown creatures are starting to appear in far northeast Iowa and an action plan is being put into place.

To battle the insect, she says the state is going to use plastic, blue flakes — about the size of chopped oatmeal — which are embedded with the same scent that's given off by a female gypsy moth when she's ready to mate.

"We can apply six ounces of these flakes per acre, that's a very, very small amount, it doesn't affect any other animal, any other insect," Pruisner says.

"Now, the male gypsy moth will literally smell the females everywhere and in the confusion, they can't find a real female moth to mate with."

Pruisner says, "We're never going to be able to eradicate this insect, but what we're trying to do is lessen the impact of it, initially, so our environment and our trees can get accustomed to it and we can slide into a place where we can learn to live with the insect."



The moths were brought to the U-S about 150 years ago to help with silk production, originally in the Boston area, but they escaped and have been spreading across the nation ever since.

This tactic is called "mating disruption treatment" and should help to keep the pest's population in check, at least temporarily. Airplanes will be used to drop the flakes in four planned applications this year in two counties in northeast Iowa — Allamakee and Jackson.

"The gypsy moth feeds on somewhere between 300 and 500 different plants," Pruisner says. "It does have a particular love of the oak tree, our state tree, and we are concerned about the health of our oak trees and our forest lands as well as our front yards."

This article can be found at: www.radioiowa.com/2011/05/25/iowa-uses-planes-chemical-weapons-to-battle-moth/

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Iowa State Fair Commercial Landscape Competition

During the Iowa State Fair this summer, August 11-21, 2011, a new competition will be held for the landscaping industry. Professional landscapers from Iowa can enter the Commercial Landscape Competition, and compete for the Best in Show cash prize of \$1,000.

low.

If you have any questions, please contact Jen Cannon with the Iowa State Fair at 515.262.3111 ext. 245 or via email at jcanon@iowastatefair.org.

Eligibility rules, judgment criteria, and additional information is be-

COMMERCIAL LANDSCAPE COMPETITION

Amount Offered\$3,000

Commercial Landscape exhibits will be open to the public for viewing on Expo Hill each day of the Fair.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

July 1	Entry Deadline
August 3	8:00 a.m. Display set up may begin
August 10	7:00 p.m. Display set up must be complete and ready for judging
August 11	Judging
August 22	8:00 a.m. Display tear down may begin
August 24	4:00 p.m. Display tear down must be complete

RULES

1. **SUBMITTING ENTRIES.** Entries may be made on the form available online at www.iowastatefair.org. Complete entry form and return it with full payment of all fees to: Iowa State Fair, Commercial Landscape Competition, P.O. Box 57130, Des Moines, Iowa 50317-0003.
2. **ENTRY DEADLINE IS JULY 1.** Entries must be submitted online or postmarked on or before July 1.
3. **ENTRY FEE.** Each exhibitor, as a requirement for entry, shall pay a fee of \$250.00.
4. **LATE ENTRIES.** Double entry fees will be charged for all entries submitted online or postmarked July 2 - July 8. No entries will be accepted after July 8.
5. Please read all General and Departmental rules and regulations listed in the Iowa Family Living Premium Book Sections.

ENTRY ELIGIBILITY

6. The Iowa State Fair Commercial Landscape Competition is open to professional landscapers from the State of Iowa.
7. Exhibitors are limited to one entry.
8. **Entry is limited to the first 15 exhibitors.**

EXHIBIT AREA

9. Each exhibitor will randomly be assigned a 24' x 24' plot located on Expo Hill.
10. Exhibitors will create an interesting, colorful, well-designed outdoor living space.
11. Exhibitors will be responsible for providing all needed materials for the exhibit.
12. Exhibitors must label plants with common and/or botanical names. No artificial plant material is allowed.
13. Exhibitors must clean, water and replace dead materials daily. Pumps, fountains, and lights are to be maintained in good working order.
14. Electricity will not be provided. The use of solar energy is strongly encouraged. No generators will be allowed.
15. In keeping with the environmentally friendly atmosphere of Expo Hill the use of sustainable materials is strongly encouraged.
16. Exhibitors may label their exhibit space after judging is complete. Signage may be no larger than 24" x 24".

SET-UP AND CLEAN-UP OF ENTRIES

17. Exhibitors may begin set-up on Wednesday, August 3 at 8:00 a.m. No materials may enter the fairgrounds before 8:00 a.m. on August 3.
18. Please be courteous and respectful of other exhibitors areas, materials and equipment.
19. Exhibits must be complete and ready for judging by 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, August 10.
20. No exhibitor may enter the grounds for garden removal before 8:00 a.m. on Monday, August 22. All material, soil, and mulch must be removed and the site should be cleaned and raked.
21. Clean-up of the site must be completed by 4:00 p.m., Wednesday, August 24. Premium checks will not be awarded until the exhibit space is cleaned out.

JUDGING

22. All judging will be performed by a panel of experienced judges.
23. Judges' decisions are final.
24. All awards will be mailed to the exhibitors after the Fair.
25. **Judging Criteria:**
 - Design - Design Principles, Functional Use of Space, Creativity, Professionalism
 - Implementation- Materials and structures- suitable to purpose, site and design, perfection of details
 - Plant materials- Plant Selection, Proper use of Plants, Use of Color and Texture
 - Other Material- Hardscape and Ornamental Features, Construction, Use of Sustainable Materials

ADMISSION TO THE FAIRGROUNDS

26. During Fair time, August 11-21, admission to the Fairgrounds is by ticket or wristband only. Exhibitors may order admission tickets at the discounted price of \$7.00 each for adults or \$3.00 each for children 6-11 years old on the entry form. Exhibitors may also purchase vehicle permits at the discounted price of \$8.00 per day on the entry form. A vehicle permit is required for admittance of vehicle on the Fairgrounds, August 11-21. Exhibitors who have exhibits or displays which must be monitored or maintained, are encouraged to plan ahead and purchase the number of admission tickets they will need to keep their entries fresh and attractive.

LIABILITY

27. The Management will use diligence to insure the safety of articles after their arrival and placement, but in no case will they be responsible for any loss or damage that may occur.

AWARDS

Best in Show - 1st Place \$1,000	2nd Place \$500
Best Use of Sustainable Materials - 1st Place \$500	2nd Place \$250
People's Choice - 1st Place \$500	2nd Place \$250

Stalk Borer Scouting Dates for 2011

Written by: Erin Hodgson, Dept. of Entomology and Adam Sisson, Corn and Soybean Initiative

The stalk borer, *Papaipema nebris*, is a native insect to North America and has a wide host range (more than 175 plant species). Female moths prefer to lay eggs in narrow-leaved perennial grasses like tall fescue, giant foxtail and quackgrass. When eggs hatch, the larvae burrow into the grass and kill the top of the plant, which is sometimes referred to as leaving a “dead head” plant. Eventually the larvae get too big for the grass and migrate to larger plants like corn, sunflower and sometimes soybean.

Description

Stalk borer larvae have three pairs of true legs and four pairs of fleshy prolegs. The body is creamy white and dark purple with brown stripes. Often there is a creamy white stripe running down the back. A distinctive feature is an orange head with two dark lateral stripes (Figure 1). The adults are dark grey and brown colored moths, with jagged white lines and two to three clusters of white spots.



Figure 1. Stalk borer larva. Photo credit Marlin E. Rice.

Scouting

Begin scouting when 1,300-1,400 growing degree days (base 41 F) have accumulated. About 10 percent of stalk borer larvae movement has occurred when 1,400 degree days accrue. The map below (Figure 2) shows the estimated dates to begin scouting for stalk borer. The earliest scouting date, June 11, occurs in southeast Iowa. The date to begin scouting in south central and southwest Iowa are June 14 and June 12, respectively. Scouting should begin in east central Iowa June 17, central Iowa on June 20 and west central Iowa on June 18. The northwestern and north central climate divisions should begin scouting June 23 and finally, June 24 for the northeastern division.



Figure 2. Estimated date to begin scouting for stalk borer in Iowa climate divisions. Estimates are based on accumulated growing degree days (base 41 F). Begin scouting around 1,300-1,400 degree days.

Look for larvae inside the whorls to determine the number of plants infested. The larvae are not highly mobile and typically only move into the first four to six rows of corn. Look for new leaves with irregular feeding holes or for small larvae resting inside the corn whorls.

Larvae will excrete a considerable amount of frass pellets in the whorl or at the entry hole in the stalk. Young corn is particularly vulnerable to severe damage, but plants are unlikely to be killed once reaching V7 (seven true leaves).

Damage

Corn is infested when stalk borer larvae move to find bigger host plants, typically adjacent to grassy edges of emerging corn. The most susceptible stages of infestation are at V1-V5, or about 2-24 inches in plant height. Larvae can damage corn by defoliating leaves and burrowing into stalks. Stalk borers do not typically cause economic damage when feeding on the leaves, but can clip newly emerging plants and cause death. More often, larvae kill corn plants by entering the stalk and destroying the growing point (i.e., flagging or dead heart). A dead heart plant will have outer leaves that appear healthy, but the newest whorl leaves die and can cause a barren plant.

Management

Stalk borer infestations are more likely in corn surrounded by giant ragweed. Although minimizing weeds in and around corn will discourage egg-laying females, using herbicides to kill weeds can force stalk borer larvae to find new host plants. Long term management requires controlling grass edges so that mated females will not lay eggs in that area during the fall. Mowing grassy areas adjacent to corn fields the second week of August will make borders unattractive to adults.

Fields with persistent stalk borer infestations should be monitored every year. Applying insecticides to infested corn is not effective because the larvae are protected once tunneled into the stalk. Instead, target foliar applications to larvae as they migrate from grasses to corn.

To prevent stand loss, scout and determine the percent of infested plants. The use of an economic threshold (Table 1), first developed by ISU entomologist Larry Pedigo, will help determine justifiable insecticide treatments based on market value and plant stage. Young plants have a lower threshold because they are more easily killed by stalk borer larvae.

leaf stage	\$5/bu				\$6/bu				\$7/bu			
	150	175	200	225	150	175	200	225	150	175	200	225
1	3.46	2.97	2.6	2.31	2.89	2.47	2.16	1.92	2.47	2.12	1.86	1.65
2	4.23	3.63	3.17	2.82	3.53	3.02	2.65	2.35	3.02	2.59	2.27	2.02
3	5.6	4.8	4.2	3.73	4.67	4	3.5	3.11	4	3.43	3	2.67
4	5.95	5.1	4.46	3.97	4.96	4.25	3.72	3.31	4.25	3.64	3.19	2.83
5	6.8	5.83	5.1	4.54	5.67	4.86	4.25	3.78	4.86	4.16	3.64	3.24
6	11.9	10.2	8.93	7.94	9.92	8.5	7.44	6.61	8.5	7.29	6.38	5.67
7	32.8	28.2	24.6	21.9	27.4	23.5	20.5	18.2	23.5	20.1	17.6	15.6

Table 1. Economic thresholds (percent infested plants) for stalk borer in corn, based on plant stage, expected yield and market value.

If an insecticide is warranted, some products can be tank-mixed with a fast burn-down herbicide, or applied seven days after a slow burn-down herbicide. Border treatment should be considered if infestations are localized. Insecticides must be well-timed so that products are reaching exposed larvae before they burrow into the stalk. Make sure to read the label and follow directions, especially if tank-mixing with a herbicide, for optimal stalk borer control.

For more information on stalk borer biology and management, read a recent Journal of Integrated Pest Management article by Rice and Davis (2010), “Stalk borer ecology and IPM in corn.”

This article can be found at: www.extension.iastate.edu/CropNews/2011/0602hodgson.htm.

Stingless Wasps Used to Fight Emerald Ash Borer in St. Paul

Written by: Colleen Mahoney

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture released more than 2000 stingless wasps on a dozen trees at Langford Park in St. Paul.

The stingless wasps are expected to disperse and attack the emerald ash borer. The invasive beetle is threatening ash trees across the country, and has arrived in Minnesota.

MDA released two species of stingless wasps that were

tested and approved by the USDA. The agency stressed that the stingless wasps are not harmful to humans.

This is the first of five releases that will take place in St. Paul and Minneapolis, where an infestation has been identified.

This article can be found at : <http://kstp.com/article/stories/S2147134.shtml>.

INLA Member Spotlight

The Iowa Nursery and Landscape Association would like to promote our members within the organization by highlighting one member in the monthly newsletters. The INLA Member Spotlight will provide members an opportunity to discuss and promote their business within the organization.

Members who would like to be featured in the newsletter should email two paragraphs of content and photos to Joan

O'Brien at joano@agribiz.org. INLA will feature members on a rotating basis across the state, starting in the northwest and moving east.

Please note that INLA reserves the right to edit information for size and content. If you have any questions, please call the INLA office at 515.262.8323 or email Joan O'Brien at joano@agribiz.org.

It's Time to Renew your INLA Membership

Thanks for all of your Support!

Another year has gone by and the Association truly appreciates all the support members have provided over the year. We will be sending out the first draft of dues letters for 2012 soon. We hope you choose to renew your membership with the Association and recommend that you send your dues in right away.

Also, membership to the Iowa Nursery and Landscape Association puts you in an elite category of leaders who are on the cutting edge of the industry. Change is inevitable and the unity of an entire industry makes a difference on many issues. INLA prides itself on representing you on the many things impacting your business.

INLA members are the most progressive thinkers in the nursery and landscaping industry. INLA offers many opportunities for members to keep in touch with the newest and best in the industry. Recently INLA began a great partnership with Iowa State University's Shade Tree Short Course. The combination of highly regarded speakers and the newest products and equipment at the trade show makes this event a "must-attend" member benefit. INLA is also proud to be a partner with the American Nursery and Landscape Association (ANLA) through the Lighthouse Program. As a partner INLA contributes \$10 per member in dues to the ANLA Lighthouse Program.

The Lighthouse Program, representing close to 15,000 Green Industry professionals throughout the country, raised over \$145,000 to promote the industry's best interests on the federal level last year. This membership gives you access to lobbying power and information on a national level.

Please note the changes made to INLA dues: The INLA Board of Directors voted to approve the Membership Committee's recommended changes to the INLA dues in hopes of streamlining the annual dues, and also allowing for those in the horticulture industry not currently working for a landscaping or nursery entity to participate as a member of INLA.

The Active Membership category includes any wholesale or retail nursery, retail garden center or landscaping firm based in the state of Iowa whose primary business is the production and/or distribution

of horticultural products or the distribution of products closely allied to the growth or care of horticultural products. Dues will be \$220 per entity. Active members are entitled to one vote at meetings of the INLA.

Associate membership includes any person or firm engaged in the manufacturing, vending or distribution of goods or supplies used by nurseries, garden centers or landscaping firms. Any wholesale or retail nursery, retail garden center, or landscaping firm whose primary location is situated outside of Iowa. Associate dues will be \$160 annually. Associate members are not entitled to vote at meetings of the Association.

ICNP dues will be \$20 annually for those certified nursery professionals working for a firm that is already a member of INLA. If the ICNP does not work for an INLA member firm, ICNP annual dues will be \$50.

Students - Any student in a horticulture program is eligible to join INLA. The annual dues for a student to join INLA are \$20.

Individual membership category has been added and will include any person with an interest in horticulture within the state of Iowa. Individual members may be employees of non-member firms, educator of horticulture or landscaping, employee of the state of Iowa, employee of a non-profit arboretum or other horticulture-related group, a person retired from active employment in the horticulture industry or other individuals interested in supporting the mission of the INLA. The new category for the individual professionals will have annual dues of \$50. Individual members are not entitled to vote at meetings of the Association.

The updated categories and dues will take effect with the next dues cycle scheduled to begin July 1, 2011.

If you have any questions about membership with the Iowa Nursery and Landscape Association please contact the INLA office at 515.262.8323 or 800.383.1682.