



Quarantine of Firewood and Ash Products Established for Allamakee County to Help Prevent Spread of Emerald Ash Borer

Iowa Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey announced that a quarantine of Allamakee County has been issued to prevent the spread of the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB). State officials announced recently that an EAB infestation had been confirmed along the Mississippi River two miles south of the Minnesota border in Allamakee County.

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship has also filed a proposed amendment to the Iowa Administrative Code that would require that firewood sold or distributed in Iowa be identified by the country and state of origin.

"These steps are necessary to help prevent the spread of this destructive insect while hopefully allowing businesses to continue to function," Northey said. "This quarantine is established to make sure that any ash products that leave Allamakee County do not spread this pest. And, since firewood has been the primary means of transporting the insect and starting new infestations, this rule change focuses on a key risk factor in EAB spreading across the state."

Quarantine Information

The regulated articles under the quarantine include EAB at any living state; entire ash trees; firewood of any hardwood species; any cut or fallen material of the ash; non-heat treated ash lumber with either bark or sapwood attached; and hardwood wood or bark chips larger than one inch in two dimension.

The quarantine orders that the regulated articles cannot be moved from Allamakee County unless a permit has been issued by either the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship or USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) or if the article has been treated to exterminate any pests under the supervision of USDA and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship.

A full copy of the quarantine can be found on the Department's website at www.iowaagriculture.gov under the "Hot Topics" section.

New Firewood Labeling Rules

The movement of firewood throughout Iowa and to other states poses the greatest threat to quickly spread EAB even further. Areas currently infested are under federal and state quarantines, but unknowing campers or others who transport firewood can spark an outbreak.

To better track firewood, the Department has issued a Notice of Intended action to Amend Chapter 46 the Iowa Administrative Code, "Crop Pests," to require

that every package of firewood offered for sale, sold or distributed include the harvest location of the wood by county and state. The harvest location of wood sold in bulk must be included on the delivery ticket. The rules will become effective on January 1, 2011.

A copy of the Notice of Intended Action is available on the Department's website at www.iowaagriculture.gov.

Written comments or suggestions on the proposed changes can also be made before August 1, 2010. Written comments should be addressed to Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Wallace State Office Building, 502 E. 9th St., Des Moines, IA 50319, or faced to 515-281-6236 or emailed to Margaret.Thomson@iowaagriculture.gov.

EAB Overview

The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is native to eastern Asia, and was detected in the United States near Detroit, Michigan in 2002. EAB kills all ash (*Fraxinus*) species by larval burrowing under the bark and eating the actively growing layers.

The metallic-green adult beetles are a half inch long, and are active from late-May to early-August in Iowa. Signs of EAB infestation include one-eighth inch D-shaped exit holes in ash tree bark and serpentine tunnels packed with sawdust under the bark. Tree symptoms of an infestation include crown thinning and dieback when first noticed, epicormic sprouting as insect damage progresses, and woodpecker feeding.

EAB has killed ash trees of various sizes in neighborhoods and woodlands throughout the Midwest. Ash is one of the most abundant native tree species in North America, and has been heavily planted as a landscape tree in yards and other urban areas. According to recent sources, Iowa has an estimated 58 million rural ash trees and approximately 30 million more ash trees in urban areas.

Iowa EAB Team members have been taking part in a collaborative effort to look for this pest since 2003. Detection efforts have included visual surveys, sentinel trees, trap surveys, nursery stock inspections, sawmill/wood processing site visits, and hundreds of educational programs.

This year EAB team members are in the process of placing 1800 purple traps at high-risk areas in the state, including in a 1.5 mile grid along the Mississippi River. The Iowa Department of Natural Resources also has 412 trap trees in the state this year, 12 of which are in Allamakee County.

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Become Involved with the Green Farmstead Partner Program

Informational workshop being held July 14, 2010 - Register by July 5, 2010

Iowa's livestock farmers have and will continue to make environmental quality a top priority. The Green Farmstead Partner program was developed to assist in those efforts!

The program creates a turn-key way for livestock farmers to research the benefits of tree plantings for their farm, identify and contact trained nursery professionals to assist in the planning process, purchase appropriate vegetation and make plans for the ongoing maintenance of their vegetative buffers. The program also offers opportunities for farmers to network with other families to learn how vegetative buffers work for other livestock farmers.

Through the Green Farmstead Partner program, farmers can be assured that the nursery professionals who are partnered with the program have been trained on the special considerations of planting trees around livestock and poultry barns and feedlots.

If you are a nursery professional or landscape business interested in participating and becoming a partner with the Green Farmstead program an introductory workshop has been scheduled. The workshop will be held July 14, 2010 at the Iowa Soybean Association conference center at 1255 SW Prairie Trail Pkwy in Ankeny, Iowa. The workshop will start at 10:00 am and conclude at 3:00 pm.

The Green Farmstead Partner program concept was developed by the Coalition to Support Iowa's Farmers as an

extension of their efforts to assist today's farm families by providing resources and support for the modern livestock and poultry producer. The Coalition is partnering with Trees Forever for their expertise in the technical issues of planting trees and vegetative buffers, as well as their extensive network of field staff and resources across the state. The Iowa Nursery and Landscape Association brings its statewide membership of landscape and nursery professionals to the program partnership, as resources for design expertise and installation and a source for quality plant materials.

Agenda items include: How to use and plan for vegetative buffers around livestock, Species selection, NRCS programs and cost share, Computer design and concept planning, and Benefits for your individual business. Facilitators from ISU, Coalition to Support Iowa's Farmers, Trees Forever and NRCS will present.

Currently the Green Farmstead Partner Program, which can be linked to through the Coalition to Support Iowa Farmers website (www.supportfarmers.com), has a list of participating nurseries. At the conclusion of this workshop attending businesses will be able add their information to this list for future reference as the program expands its contacts.

The registration deadline for this workshop is July 5, 2010. Contact Megan Ritter (mritter@supportfarmers.com or 515-225-5481) for additional information and to register.



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Second Annual All-Horticulture Field Day to be held July 29, 2010

You are invited to the second annual All-Horticulture field day to be held at the Horticulture Research Station on July 29, 2010. This opportunity will showcase research projects being conducted at the station in all areas of horticulture. Concurrent sessions will allow you to learn more about specific areas of horticulture and to network with others in the "growing" horticulture industry.

Special areas of interest will highlight vegetable production, apple, grape, and small fruit production and wine tasting, lawn and turf management, urban tree development, landscape design and installation, organic horticulture, and farm pond and surface water management.

Pre-registration is \$20.00 for full day attendance, on-site registration is \$25. Look for further details and registration information to be coming out soon via e-mail and on the All-Horticulture Field Day website at:

www.hort.iastate.edu/news/docs/2ndAllHortFieldDay.pdf.

Additional information is also attached to the June INLA newsletter.

Topics to include

Airblast Spraying: Airblast sprayers offer an effective and economical means for applying fungicides, insecticides, growth regulators and foliar nutrients in orchards and vineyards. Compared to conventional sprayers, air blast systems allow growers to concentrate spray where less liquid is applied per acre, and at higher concentrations, less pesticide is needed to attain effective coverage. Dr. Paul Domoto will be explaining how this is accomplished, and an air blast sprayer will be demonstrated.

Aquaculture/Fisheries: Fish production and current research at the Aquatic Research Facility (ARF) with an emphasis on this year's Bluegill project.

Computer Applications in Horticulture: A hands-on session covering the latest in software development for the landscape industry. His presentation will include traditional computer applications as well as iPhone/iPod Touch/iPad applications.

Crabapples: Since 1985, the Iowa State University Department of Horticulture has participated in the National Crabapple Evaluation Program, and during this tour stop we will feature some of the best crabapples for the Iowa landscape. Join us as we traverse this impressive collection in search of that perfect crabapple.

EarthKind Rose Trial: EarthKind is an innovative new program that addresses environmental landscape management. We will discuss the northern EarthKind rose trial planted at the Horticulture Research Farm as well as the newly estab-

lished EarthKind Hydrangea trial. These two plantings are part of the nationwide trialing program of rose and hydrangea cultivars being evaluated for their suitability for inclusion in EarthKind landscapes.

High Tunnels: High tunnels extend the growing season and produce greater yields of high quality fruits and vegetables. See both fruits and vegetables growing in different sized high tunnels.

Orchard: Influence of rootstocks and crop load ratios on 'Gibson Golden Delicious' apple yield, fruit quality and return bloom. Rootstocks and crop-load management are important factors that influence the profitability of apple orchards. The rootstock can influence tree vigor, precocity, sustained productivity, fruit size, and tree tolerance to biotic and abiotic stresses. Crop load can affect fruit maturity, size and grade and return bloom in the subsequent year. Because modern high-density systems require careful selection of rootstocks and managing crop-loads to optimize yields and return on a relatively high investment, Dennis has undertaken this study to evaluate the performance of five dwarfing apple rootstocks subjected to under different cropping levels. Treatments are being monitored for differences in fruit growth rate, maturity, yield, fruit size and quality, and the ability to produce blossoms for next season's crop.

Forestry: Portable sawmill demonstration with an emphasis on saw safety followed by a demonstration of how maple syrup is made using a portable sugarhouse.

Student Organic Farm: The Student Organic Farm (SOF) demonstrates organic practices for vegetable and fruit production, including cover crops, trap crops, organic fertilization and mulches. New this year is a demonstration site for double-cropped organic vegetables in rotation with cover crops, and a description of integrating SOF crops into the ISU Dining Service

Turf Demonstrations: Will include information on lawn mower safety, maintenance, and selection. A walking tour to identify weeds, insects, diseases, and their control and a turf research plot tour.

Vineyard: Field day attendees will tour research vineyards that include wine grape cultivars, cropping and canopy management studies, and weed control and soil quality management projects. Iowa State University faculty and graduate students will provide tours and answer viticultural questions.

Wine Lab: The Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute will discuss wine grape harvest parameters and their importance to winemaking. The measurements of pH, Titratable Acidity, and Brix will be demonstrated.

Special Offer for Job Seekers

Horticultural graduates, industry professionals, or anyone looking for a job in the green industry can post their resume for FREE on the ANLA Job Board, confidentially if you choose.

SPECIAL OFFER*: Post your resume on the ANLA Job

Board between now and July 1, 2010 and be entered into a drawing to win a 16GB Apple iPad!

Resumes can be posted at and opening within your company can be posted at:

www.anla.org/index.cfm?area=&page=Content&categoryID=280.