



**INLA**  
IOWA NURSERY &  
LANDSCAPE  
ASSOCIATION

## IOWA NURSERY & LANDSCAPE ASSOCIATION

# NEWS

### Thank You 2015 Sponsors!

INLA would like to take a moment to recognize the sponsors and exhibitors of the 59th Annual STSC and INLA Tradeshow.

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### Thank You to Our 2015 Exhibitors!

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# 59th Annual INLA Trade Show Wrap Up

## Iowa Certified Nursery Professional Certification Exam

The INCP testing was held on INLA Day during the 59th Annual Iowa State University and Iowa Nursery & Landscaping Association Convention and Trade Show. Two industry professionals successfully completed the Iowa Certified Nursery Professional testing at the ISU Shade Tree Short Course and INLA Conference and Trade Show held in February.

**Monica Hanson—DMACC Ankeny**  
**Kim Tiedt—Tiedt Nursery**

## ICNP of the Year



For his contribution to the INLA by instilling enthusiasm and interest in the young people of our industry, our ICNP of the Year is **KEVIN FEHR** of Iowa Lakes Community College. Kevin is a long time member and contributor of the INLA.

We are pleased that Kevin has dedicated so much time to the INLA over the years. Kevin is a member of numerous professional associations including: Minnesota Nursery and Landscape Assn, Iowa Professional Lawn Care Assn, Iowa Golf Course Superintendents Assn, Golf Superintendents of America, Iowa Sports Turf Managers Assn.

Kevin has contributed much to the future of our industry by sharing their passion and interest with many young people and fueled their interest in our industry. In fact, over the years, this person has brought numerous individuals to the INLA convention and STSC for continuous learning. The classroom learning has been further enhanced when this person has brought numerous young people to get their hands dirty by participating in the INLA Annual Day of Service. Just 2 years ago this person became a newly minted ICNP and demonstrated to their students the importance that continuous education plays in a green industry career. We were also pleased with they accepted a seat on the INLA Board a few years ago.

## Hall of Fame Inductee

This year's Hall of Fame Inductee honor goes to **STEVE RITTER** of Ritter's Garden Center from West Burlington, Iowa.



Steve has been working in the family business since he was 14. His parents Ralph and Pauline Ritter purchased a feed store in Fort Madison IA in 1969. Steve attended ISU to study Horticulture graduating in 1978. In 1981 they added another florist, landscape, and garden center in West Burlington, IA. In 2004 Steve and his wife, Lynn, purchased the business from his parents. Steve and Lynn have 3 children, Chris, Ryan, and Amanda, whom all work in the business. They have 7 grandchildren and one on the way.

Over the years Steve has been very active in the industry as well as his community. He has served on the INLA board and was president in 1999, he also served on the western board and was president in 2007. Steve has been past president of Morning Kiwanis, served on the Board of Supervisors, and the Burlington Golf Club Board. He also thoroughly enjoyed his time teaching and being head of the Horticulture Department at Southeastern Community College.

## INLA Award of Merit

INLA is proud to honor **BRENT GUSTASON** of Johnson's Nursery, Inc., Menomonee Falls, WI with the INLA Award of Merit.



Brent received a degree in Botany and Plant Biology in 1993 from UNI. his resume boasts an impressive list of companies with whom he has worked and sold plants for including; Leid's Nursery, Hawks Nursery, Midwest Groundcovers and currently with Johnson's Nursery in Menomonee Falls, WI. Brent has been organizing the auctions for the INLA Scholarship dinners. Brent is dedicated professional and dedicated husband (to Lina) and father (to Quinn).

## Thank You For A Successful Auction

The Iowa Nursery and Landscape Association would like to thank everyone who donated and participated in the dinner/auction portion of the trade show on Wednesday night of the trade show. All of the money raised during the auction will go to Iowa State University and Iowa Community College scholarships for horticulture students. A big thanks goes out to all auction participants!

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## Horticulture Priorities Continue to be Supported Through APHIS Farm Bill Program

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Columbus, Ohio – On March 18, USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) announced the spending plan for this year’s Plant Pest and Disease Management and Disaster Prevention Program – Farm Bill Section 10007. USDA Secretary Vilsack announced the program will provide nearly \$58 million to support mitigation efforts for specialty crops, a 20 percent increase over last year, due to the expanded support for our industry’s crops in the new Farm Bill.

APHIS support for some of the horticulture industry’s most significant pathogen concerns continues in this round of projects. Boxwood Blight work has been funded for a fourth year with \$834,000 in support. Downy mildew research with a particular focus on impatiens downy mildew (IDM) received \$417,000. The second year of rapid diagnostic tool development on rose rosette disease (RRD) was funded at \$85,000. Solutions to *Phytophthora ramorum* and similar pathogens continue to be supported at the National Ornamentals Research Site at Dominican University (CA) and other locations.

A project AmericanHort was particularly enthusiastic about in this round brings together AmericanHort, American Beekeeper Federation, American Honey Producers Association, American Seed Trade Association, and Pollinator Partnership for the first time on a coordinated project fully funded at \$272,000. The project will identify which plants already available in the trade are the most valuable forage sources for bees at different times of the year. The results will help to identify plants for which growers should be especially cautious with systemic and long-residual insecticides, and help inform the public about which landscape plants they can purchase from their local garden centers for helping pollinators in their area. Also announced Wednesday was the funding for the National Clean Plant Network (NCPN), which provides pathogen-tested clean plants to the commercial nursery trade for further propagation and production. In the last Farm Bill, NCPN was merged with the Plant Pest and Disease Management Program, but the review process for project proposals remains autonomous. NCPN focuses on high-value genera with serious pest concerns, such as apples, grapevines, stone fruit, and berries.

The three hubs for the fruit tree network, Clemson University, University of California – Davis, and University of Washington, received over \$2.1 million in total to support the network’s goal of making disease-free, certified planting materials available to the industry and ensure the global competitiveness of U.S. specialty crop producers. In its inaugural year in the NCPN the garden rose program will be administered by the program stalwart, Foundation Plant Services at UC Davis, and a new network center at Texas A&M, which received over \$115,000 to launch the new program. Also announced, AmericanHort and other members of USDA-APHIS’ Farm Bill Management Team were recognized with the Safeguarding Award, recognizing a commitment to innovation and excellence. “Our industry’s partnership with APHIS is a shining example and a model for solving tough problems,” said Craig Regelbrugge, AmericanHort’s senior vice president for industry advocacy and research. “Together, we’re tackling threats to our industry’s very future.”

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## HOUSE PASSES RESOLUTION TO STOP NLRB AMBUSH ELECTION RULE

By: [NACS Online](#)

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Like previous Senate vote, House approval is largely symbolic in face of likely presidential veto. On Thursday, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a joint resolution to stop the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) from implementing its “ambush election” rule. The resolution passed the House by a vote of 232-186 after previously passing the Senate by a vote of 53-46. However, the House and Senate’s actions are largely seen as symbolic gestures, as they do not have the requisite votes necessary to override President Obama’s likely veto.

The House and Senate’s actions are pursuant to the “Congressional Review Act” (CRA). Under the CRA, the House and Senate can vote on a joint resolution of disapproval to stop a federal agency from implementing a rule or regulation or issuing a substantially similar regulation without congressional authorization. The President can veto these resolutions, however, and President Obama is expected to do so in the coming days. A two-thirds vote is required to override a Presidential veto.

In December, the NLRB released its final rule to authorize “ambush elections,” in an attempt to speed up union elections, which could take place in as few as 11 days. The rule gives employers no time to communicate with their employees before a union election and undermines the ability of workers to make an informed decision. In addition, it will compromise worker privacy by forcing employers to provide employees’ personal email addresses, work schedules, personal cell phone numbers and other personal information to union organizers without employees’ consent. The rule only gives employers seven days to find legal counsel and prepare for a pre-election hearing before an NLRB regional officer. During those seven days, employers will have to identify every legal concern or forfeit the ability to raise the concern at all. The ambush election rule will take effect April 14, 2015.

## The INLA Job Board

.... is a handy tool!

This feature will be a great benefit if you are in the market for a new job OR if you are a company looking for talent!

**Both resumes and job postings are welcome.**

Our hope is to create a more efficient way for our industry to interact, when it comes to employment and sustaining our level of professionals. To post a job or a resume please contact Joan O'Brien at joano@agribiz.org

To access the job board on the website please go to:

<http://iowanla.org/job-postings/>



## ADVERTISE WITH US!

Placing an ad within the INLA monthly newsletters is a great way to reach fellow industry professionals across the state and beyond.

Whether you're selling products or services, we'll help you get the word out.

Call the office at 515-262-8323/800-383-1682 or email Joan O'Brien for more details.

## EAB Update: Emerald Ash Borer Confirmed in Keokuk County

Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) has been positively identified in the Iowa community of Hedrick in Keokuk County. EAB kills all ash tree species and is considered to be one of the most destructive tree pests ever seen in North America.

An ash tree with evidence of recent woodpecker activity was observed by an Iowa EAB Team member. A branch was removed from the tree and a suspect larva was collected.

"With the recent discoveries in nearby areas announced in December, this find is no real surprise," said Mike Kintner, Iowa Department of Agriculture & Land Stewardships EAB and Gypsy Moth Coordinator. "Like many other finds this winter, woodpecker activity continues to capture our attention of potentially EAB infested trees. The winter months are an opportune time to scout for the signs we are looking for, such as light-colored bark areas, or flecking, and feeding holes as a result of woodpeckers searching for EAB larvae to feed on."

Nineteen Iowa counties now have confirmed EAB infestations. A statewide quarantine, issued on Feb. 4, 2014, remains in place and restricting the movement of hardwood firewood, ash logs, wood chips and ash tree nursery stock out of Iowa into non-quarantined areas of other states.

"We still strongly urge Iowans to not move firewood long distances," said State Entomologist Robin Pruisner of the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. "A large portion

of Iowa is not showing signs of EAB infestation; let's keep those areas EAB-free as long as possible but not moving wood that potentially harbors EAB or other tree pests. Be vigilant, report suspicious symptoms in counties that are not yet known to be infested to a member of the Iowa EAB Team."

The Iowa EAB Team provides EAB diagnostic assistance to landowners and includes officials from Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS), Iowa State University Extension and Outreach, the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (DNR), USDA Animal Plant Health Inspection Service and the USDA Forest Service.

The Iowa EAB Team strongly cautions Iowans not to transport firewood across county or state lines, since the movement of firewood throughout Iowa or to other states poses the greatest threat to quickly spread EAB and other plant pests. Most EAB infestations in the United States

have been started by people unknowingly moving infested firewood, nursery plants or sawmill logs. The adult beetle also can fly short distances, approximately 2 to 5 miles.

The next window for preventive treatment measures (trunk injection, soil injection, soil drench, or basal trunk sprays) will open early spring 2015 (mid-April to mid-May). If a landowner is interested in protecting a valuable and healthy ash tree within 15 miles of a known infestation, they should use the winter months to have landscape and tree service companies bid on work, and these bids can be reviewed before next spring.

