

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2008-44
August 8, 2008

SUBJECT: Emerald Ash Borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) in Wayne County, Missouri

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) confirmed the identification of Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), in Wayne County, Missouri, on July 25, 2008. This is the first detection of EAB in the State of Missouri.

On July 23, 2008, an employee with APHIS' Plant Protection and Quarantine program collected seven suspected EAB specimens from a purple prism trap placed in the Greenville Campground of the Lake Wappapello Army Corps of Engineers Recreational Area in Wayne County, Missouri. The trap was placed at this location as part of the EAB National Survey, which targets high risk-sites for EAB trapping in 48 States. Wayne County, Missouri, is located within the southeast corner of Missouri, in close proximity to the Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, and Arkansas borders.

In response to this detection, APHIS is working closely with the Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA) to carryout delimiting surveys around the initial detection site. APHIS is also coordinating with representatives of the Missouri State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, the U.S. Forest Service, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Missouri. Further, it is necessary for APHIS to quarantine this infested area in order to prevent further spread of EAB. Accordingly, effective immediately, all interstate movement of EAB-regulated articles from Wayne County must be performed in accordance with the attached Federal Order. Specifically, the interstate movement of EAB-host wood and wood products from Wayne County is regulated, including firewood of all hardwood species, nursery stock, green lumber, waste, compost, and chips of ash species. The Federal allows Missouri 30 days from August 8, 2008, to place an equivalent parallel quarantine in place for EAB; otherwise, it will be necessary to quarantine the entire State as an EAB-quarantined area.

EAB is currently present in some parts of the United States and is subject to official control to prevent further spread. Recently, an EAB infestation was newly detected in Fairfax County in northern Virginia. The entire county is now a Federal quarantine area for EAB; however, the State of Virginia has expanded its intrastate phytosanitary regulations to include adjacent counties as a precautionary measure. APHIS has expanded the Federal EAB quarantine area in Virginia to parallel the State's quarantine. Currently, the entire States of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois are quarantine areas for EAB, together with portions of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, the entirety of Michigan's Lower Peninsula, and Prince George's County in Maryland. Five counties in western Pennsylvania are also quarantined EAB areas.

EAB is an invasive wood boring pest that is native to China and East Asia. It probably arrived in North America hidden in wood packing materials commonly used to ship goods in commerce. The first U.S. detection of EAB occurred in southeastern Michigan. Since then, EAB has been

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responsible for the death and decline of over 30 million ash trees in the United States. The interstate movement of firewood from quarantined areas is an especially high-risk pathway for spreading EAB, and APHIS is working with State cooperators and foresters to raise awareness about this threat among the public.

For more information about the EAB program and Federal EAB regulations, you may contact Paul Chaloux, Acting EAB National Program Manager, at Area Code (301) 734-0917.

/s/ Rebecca A. BECH

Rebecca A. Bech
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine

Attachment:
Federal Order

FEDERAL ORDER

Domestic Quarantine of Wayne County, Missouri for Emerald Ash Borer (*Agrilus planipennis*)

This Federal Order is issued under the regulatory authority provided by the Plant Protection Act of June 20, 2000, as amended, Section 412(a), 7 U.S.C. 7712(a), which authorizes the Secretary of Agriculture to prohibit or restrict the movement in interstate commerce of any plant, plant part, or article, if the Secretary determines the prohibition or restriction is necessary to prevent the dissemination of a plant pest within the United States and the regulations promulgated pursuant to the Plant Protection Act found at 7 CFR 301.53.

This Federal Order quarantines, effective immediately, Wayne County, Missouri, for Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), *Agrilus planipennis*. This action is in response to a confirmed detection of EAB in Wayne County, Missouri. The Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) has determined that it is necessary to quarantine this area in order to prevent the spread of EAB. Accordingly, effective immediately, all interstate movement of EAB-regulated articles from Wayne County must be done in accordance with the regulations promulgated pursuant to the Plant Protection Act found at 7 CFR 301.53 et seq.

APHIS has confirmed EAB infestations in various areas of the United States for which the Administrator has determined that it is necessary to quarantine these areas in order to prevent the spread of EAB. Currently, the entire States of Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois are quarantined areas for EAB, together with portions of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, the entirety of Michigan's Lower Peninsula, and Prince George's County in Maryland. APHIS has confirmed EAB infestations in additional areas and has issued Federal Orders to likewise quarantine those areas in order to prevent the further spread of EAB.

On August 8, 2007, APHIS issued a Federal Order (DA#2007-29, 8/8/07) to add four counties in western Pennsylvania, Allegheny, Beaver, Butler, and Lawrence Counties to the EAB-quarantined areas. On July 11, 2008, APHIS issued a second Federal Order (DA#2008-19, 7/11/08) to add Fairfax County in Virginia to the list of quarantined areas. APHIS issued a subsequent Federal Order (DA#2008-39, 8/6/08) dated August 6, 2008, to expand the quarantined area in Virginia to include the following adjacent areas: Arlington, Fauquier, Loudon, and Prince William Counties and the independent Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas, and Manassas Park. On August 6, 2008, APHIS issued a fourth Federal Order (DA#2008-41, 8/6/08) to add Mercer County in Pennsylvania.

7 CFR 301.53-3(a) allows the designation of less than an entire State as a EAB quarantined area only when the Administrator of APHIS has determined, as in this case, that the designation of less than an entire State as a quarantined EAB area is adequate to prevent the interstate spread of infestations of Emerald Ash Borer. In addition, 7 CFR 301.53-3(a) requires that the State enforces an intrastate EAB quarantine that are equivalent to the Federal EAB regulations. The State Plant Regulatory Official for Missouri must confirm prior to September 8, 2008, the establishment of an intrastate quarantine for Wayne County that mirrors the Federal Regulatory requirements as

specified in 7CFR301.53. Otherwise, it will be necessary to quarantine the entire State of Missouri as of that date, in order to prevent the interstate spread of the plant pest. The confirmation should be made in writing to the APHIS State Plant Health Director for Missouri.

7 CFR 301.53-3 (b) provides for the temporary designation of new quarantined areas pending publication of a rule to add counties to the list shown in 7 CFR 301.53-3(c). 7 CFR 301.53-3 (b) further requires written notification be given to the owner or person in possession of a newly-quarantined area. This is the responsibility of the Federal and/or State regulatory personnel responsible for the EAB program in the affected State.

The four previous Federal Orders have been necessary due to the continuing spread of EAB. This August 7, 2008, Federal Order updates and replaces all previous versions of Federal Orders pertaining to the expansion of quarantined areas in the EAB domestic regulations.

We continue to appreciate the cooperative relationship with the State of Missouri in our efforts to prevent the spread of EAB. If you wish more details on the Federal EAB regulatory program, you may contact the EAB National Program Coordinator, Paul Chaloux, at Area Code (301) 734-0917. For information on regulatory requirements for movement of articles out of Missouri, please contact the APHIS State Plant Health Director, Mike Brown.