

FOR INFORMATION
DA-2006-36
August 8, 2006

SUBJECT: Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) in Illinois

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

A homeowner detection of EAB approximately 40 miles west of Chicago in central Kane County was confirmed on June 9, 2006. Upon inspection of the surrounding neighborhood, an additional 20 ash trees were found to be infested.

The Illinois Department of Agriculture quarantined a 51-square-mile area of Kane County on July 19, 2006, to prevent the spread of this tree-killing pest. The quarantine encompasses property within a 3 ½ mile radius of the initial EAB detection site.

A second infestation was detected on July 12, 2006, in the Cook County village of Wilmette by Wilmette Village Foresters. A survey has begun to determine the extent of the infestation, but a preliminary survey identified 16 infested trees within a five-block area.

On July 21, 2006, EAB was also detected in the northwest portion of Evanston in Cook County. A total of seven infested trees was detected as a result of an EAB state survey that had been intensified as a consequence of other EAB detections in the state.

APHIS is preparing an interim rule for publication in the Federal Register to implement a quarantine of the Kane and Cook County infestations in order to prevent movement of host materials that pose a risk of long distance spread.

/s/ Paul R. Eggert for

Richard L. Dunkle
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine