

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION

DA-2015-56

November 2, 2015

Subject: APHIS Adds All of North Carolina to the Emerald Ash Borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) Regulated Area

To: State and Territory Agricultural Regulatory Officials

Effective immediately, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is adding all of North Carolina to the list of regulated areas for the emerald ash borer (EAB). APHIS is taking this action at North Carolina's request in response to the detections of EAB in multiple counties throughout North Carolina.

To prevent the spread of EAB to other states, the attached Federal Order outlines specific conditions for the interstate movement of EAB-regulated articles from the quarantined areas in North Carolina. Specifically, the interstate movement of EAB-host wood and wood products from the quarantined areas in North Carolina is regulated, including firewood of all hardwood species, nursery stock, green lumber, waste, compost, and chips of ash species.

EAB is an invasive wood-boring beetle that is native to China and other areas of East Asia. The beetle is present in some portions of the United States, and because of its continuing spread, APHIS has established regulated areas that are designated in the *Code of Federal Regulations* (CFR) at 7 CFR 301.53-3 and the Federal Orders located at:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/planthealth/eab_quarantine

The interstate movement of firewood from quarantined areas is an especially high-risk pathway for the spread of EAB. Therefore, APHIS works with state cooperators and foresters to prevent the human assisted movement of EAB, develop biological and other controls for EAB, and raise public awareness about this pest and the potential threats associated with the long-distance movement of firewood.

For more information about the EAB program and federal EAB regulations, please call EAB National Policy Manager Paul Chaloux at 301-851-2064.

/s/

Osama El-Lissy
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine

Attachment: Federal Order

FEDERAL ORDER

Domestic Quarantine of Entire State of North Carolina for Emerald Ash Borer (*Agilus planipennis*)

DA-2015-56

This Federal Order expands the list of regulated areas for emerald ash borer (EAB) to include all of North Carolina.

This Federal Order is issued in accordance with the regulatory authority provided by the Plant Protection Act of June 20, 2000, as amended, Section 412(a), 7 U.S.C. 7712(a). The Act 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. This Federal Order is also issued pursuant to the regulations promulgated under the Plant Protection Act found at 7 CFR 301.53.

Effective immediately, this Federal Order quarantines all of North Carolina for EAB. This action responds to the detection of EAB in this state. Thus, the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) finds it necessary to regulate North Carolina to prevent the spread of EAB. Effective immediately, all interstate movement of EAB regulated articles from North Carolina must be done in accordance with any applicable provisions of this Federal Order and the regulations promulgated pursuant to the Plant Protection Act found at 7 CFR 301.53 *et seq* and the Federal Orders located at:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/planthealth/eab_quarantine

Previous Federal Orders pertaining to the expansion of quarantined areas in the EAB domestic regulations have been necessary due to the continuing spread of EAB. This Federal Order further expands the quarantined areas as described in the previous EAB Federal Orders.

If you wish more details on the federal EAB regulatory program, you may call EAB National Policy Manager Paul Chaloux at 301-851-2064. For information on the regulatory requirements to move articles out of quarantined areas in North Carolina, please call APHIS State Plant Health Director Deborah Stewart at 919-855-7600.

We continue to appreciate the cooperative relationship with North Carolina in our effort to prevent the spread of EAB.