Subject: Alger, Chippewa, and Luce Counties, Michigan Added to the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB), Agrilus planipennis, Quarantine Area

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) confirmed the identification of EAB in Alger County, Michigan, on September 23, 2009. The detection in Alger County was the result of an adult EAB being caught in a lure-baited purple panel trap placed as part of the national survey for EAB. Adult EAB were also detected in Chippewa County. Consequently, Alger and Chippewa Counties are added to the EAB quarantine area. Due to its proximity to known EAB-infested counties, Luce County is also being quarantined.

In response to these detections, APHIS is working closely with the State of Michigan to carry out delimiting survey work around the detection sites. The attached Federal Order establishes these counties as quarantine areas in order to prevent the further spread of EAB. Effective immediately, all interstate movement of EAB regulated articles from Alger, Chippewa, and Luce Counties must be done in accordance with the attached Federal Order. Specifically, the interstate movement of EAB-host wood and wood products from Alger, Chippewa, and Luce Counties are regulated, including ash nursery stock, firewood of all hardwood species, green lumber, waste, compost, and chips of ash species. The APHIS quarantine parallels the quarantine established by the State of Michigan.

EAB is present in some parts of the United States. Currently, Brown, Crawford, Fond du Lac, Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Sheboygan, Vernon, Washington, and Waukesha Counties in Wisconsin are quarantined for EAB, together with the entire States of Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and West Virginia. Portions of Michigan’s Upper Peninsula and the entirety of Michigan’s Lower Peninsula; twenty-one counties in Kentucky; Charles and Prince George’s Counties in Maryland; Arlington, Fairfax, Fauquier, Loudon, and Prince William Counties, along with the independent Cities of Alexandria, Fairfax, Falls Church, Manassas, and Manassas Park in Virginia; Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties in New York; Hennepin, Houston and Ramsey Counties in Minnesota; Wayne County in Missouri; and Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Indiana, Juniata, Lawrence, Mercer, Mifflin, Washington, and Westmoreland Counties in Pennsylvania are also quarantine areas.

EAB is an invasive wood boring beetle that is native to China and eastern Asia. It was first detected in the United States in southeastern Michigan in July 2002. Since then, EAB has been responsible for the death and decline of tens of millions of ash trees in the United States. The interstate movement of firewood from quarantine areas is an especially high risk pathway for spreading EAB. APHIS is working with State cooperators and foresters to raise awareness amongst the public concerning this threat.

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

/s/ Paul R. Eggert for

Rebecca A. Bech
Deputy Administrator
Plant Protection and Quarantine

Attachment:
Federal Order
FEDERAL ORDER

Domestic Quarantine of Alger, Chippewa, and Luce Counties in Michigan for Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) (*Agrilus planipennis*)

This Federal Order is issued pursuant to 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 is likewise issued pursuant to the regulations promulgated under the Plant Protection Act found at 7 CFR 301.53.

This Federal Order quarantines, effective immediately, Alger, Chippewa, and Luce Counties for EAB, *Agrilus planipennis*. This action is in response to the detection of EAB in Alger and Chippewa Counties, Michigan. Thus, the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) finds it necessary to regulate Alger, Chippewa, and Luce Counties in order to prevent the spread of EAB. Accordingly, effective immediately, all interstate movement of EAB regulated articles from Alger, Chippewa, and Luce Counties must be done in accordance with the regulations promulgated pursuant to the Plant Protection Act found at 7 CFR 301.53 et seq. and any applicable provisions of this Federal Order.

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. The areas quarantined due to the continuing spread of EAB are designated in the federal regulations located at 7 CFR 301.53-3 and the Federal Orders located at the following APHIS website: [http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/emerald_ash_b/quarantine.shtml](http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/emerald_ash_b/quarantine.shtml)

Section 7 CFR 301.53-3(a) allows the designation of less than an entire state as an 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 EAB. In addition, 7 CFR 301.53-3(a) requires that the state enforces an intrastate EAB quarantine that is equivalent to the Federal EAB regulations. The State Plant Regulatory Official for Michigan has confirmed the establishment of an intra-state quarantine for Alger, Chippewa, and Luce Counties that mirrors the Federal regulatory requirements as specified in 7 CFR 301.53.

Section 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). The 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.

This January 8, 2010, Federal Order updates the previous Federal Orders pertaining to the expansion of quarantined areas in the EAB domestic regulations.
If you wish more details on the Federal EAB regulatory program, you may contact the Paul Chaloux, EAB National Program Coordinator, at (301) 734-0917. For information on regulatory requirements for movement of articles out of quarantined areas in Michigan, please contact Craig Kellog, APHIS State Plant Health Director, at (734) 942-9005.

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