

FOR INFORMATION AND ACTION
DA-2013-05
March 5, 2013

SUBJECT: APHIS Removes Protected Area Status for Henry and Knox Counties, Illinois for Emerald Ash Borer (*Agrilus planipennis*)

TO: STATE AND TERRITORY AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY OFFICIALS

Effective immediately, the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is removing the emerald ash borer (EAB) protected area status for Henry and Knox Counties, Illinois due to confirmation of this pest in the fall of 2012. Protected areas are defined in Federal Order DA-2012-18, published May 31, 2012, as any area identified by a state as pest-free, for which the state has regulations to protect against the artificial intrastate spread of EAB, and which shall remain protected against the movement of regulated articles from regulated areas. As a result of this action, Henry and Knox Counties, Illinois are now regulated for EAB.

The attached Federal Order outlines specific conditions for the interstate movement of EAB-regulated articles from these counties in order to prevent the spread of EAB to non-infested areas. Specifically, under APHIS policy, contiguous regulatory areas that cross state borders and are not associated with the remaining protected areas in Illinois and Indiana are treated as a single regulated area. The movement of regulated articles from Henry and Knox Counties to the remaining protected areas in Illinois and Indiana require a limited permit or Federal certificate. The list of these protected areas is attached to the Federal Order. In addition, APHIS will continue to require limited permits or Federal certificates to move regulated articles out of EAB regulated areas to non-infested areas of the United States. Companies and individuals should check for and follow any relevant State EAB regulations.

EAB is present in some portions of the United States. Due to the continuing spread of EAB, APHIS has established regulated areas, which 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

EAB, an invasive wood boring beetle, is native to China and eastern Asia. The interstate movement of firewood from regulated areas is an especially high-risk pathway for EAB spread. APHIS works with State cooperators and foresters to raise public awareness about the potential threats associated with long distance movement of firewood.

For more information about the EAB program and Federal EAB regulations, you may contact Paul Chaloux, EAB National Program Manager, at (301) 851-2064.

/s/ Osama El-Lissy for

Rebecca A. Bech
Deputy Administrator

Plant Protection and Quarantine

Attachment:
Federal Order

FEDERAL ORDER

Removal of Protected Area Status for Henry and Knox Counties in Illinois within the quarantine area 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.

On May 31, 2012, APHIS issued a Federal Order DA-2012-18 to allow the unrestricted movement of regulated articles within contiguous regulated boundaries, with the exception of movements to protected areas in the non-infested counties in Illinois and Indiana. Protected areas are defined in Federal Order DA-2012-18 as any area identified by a State as pest free, for which the state has regulations to protect against the artificial intrastate spread of EAB, and which shall remain protected against regulated articles moving from quarantined areas.

Effective immediately, this Federal Order removes protected area status for Henry and Knox Counties in Illinois for EAB, *Agrilus planipennis*. This action is in response to the detection of EAB in Henry and Knox Counties in Illinois. Thus, the Administrator of the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) finds it necessary to remove protected area status for Henry and Knox Counties. Accordingly, effective immediately, EAB regulated articles can move freely into and from Henry and Knox Counties within contiguous quarantined areas. However, EAB regulated articles from the quarantine areas, including Henry and Knox Counties in Illinois, moving interstate into protected areas 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. The list of these protected areas is attached.

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

The 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 March 5, 2013, Federal Order amends the quarantined areas as described in the previous EAB Federal Orders.

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) 851-2064. For information on regulatory requirements for movement of articles out of quarantined areas in Illinois, please contact the APHIS State Plant Health Director, Stephen Knight, at Area Code (847) 699-2414.

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

Attachment to Federal Order DA-2012-18

Protected Area

Illinois

Adams County
Alexander County
Bond County
Brown County
Calhoun County
Carroll County
Cass County
Christian County
Clay County
Clinton County
Crawford County
Edwards County
Franklin County
Fulton County
Gallatin County
Greene County
Hamilton County
Hancock County
Hardin County
Henderson County
Jackson County
Jasper County
Jefferson County
Jersey County
Jo Daviess County
Johnson County
Lawrence County
Logan County
McDonough County
Macoupin County
Madison County
Mason County
Massac County
Menard County
Mercer County
Monroe County

Montgomery County
Morgan County
Peoria County
Perry County
Pike County
Pope County

Pulaski County
Randolph County
Richland County
Rock Island County
St. Clair County
Saline County
Sangamon County
Schuyler County
Scott County
Stephenson County
Tazewell County
Union County
Wabash County
Warren County
Washington County
Wayne County
White County
Whiteside County
Williamson County

Indiana

Crawford County
Daviss County
Gibson County
Greene County
Knox County
Martin County
Perry County
Pike County
Posey County
Spencer County
Sullivan County
Vanderburgh County