

Emerald Ash Borer - Pest Alert

A serious threat to North Dakota ash trees



The emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*) is an exotic pest from Asia that feeds on all ash tree species, *Fraxinus* spp. Likely introduced via solid wood packing material, the beetle has been found in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and Ontario, Canada where it has killed millions of ash trees. The pest has spread through movement of infested nursery stock and ash firewood. Federal and state quarantines and regulations are in place to eradicate the pest where feasible and to prevent its spread (see map).

Description - Adult beetles are 1/2 inch long and slender,  actual size. The wing covers are rough metallic emerald green, the rest of the body appears metallic golden green. Larvae are flat and elongate with a cream-colored body (head shaded brown) reaching a length of 1 to 1 1/4 inches. The abdomen has 10 bell-shaped segments, with a small pair of brown appendages on the last segment.

Damage and Symptoms - Larvae damage the conductive tissue beneath the bark which restricts the trees ability to move nutrients. They are able to develop in branches and trees 1" in diameter and greater. The first visible symptoms are thinning and dieback of foliage, usually in the upper third of the tree. After dieback, trees often grow a large mass of shoots (suckers) below the infested area. Close inspection may reveal "D" shaped exit holes, vertical splits in the bark over the infested area, and serpentine tunnels under the bark on the wood surface.

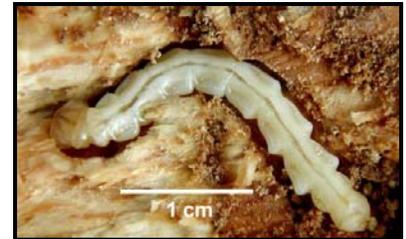
Help stop emerald ash borer from entering North Dakota

Emerald ash borer can be moved to new areas through the movement of infested ash nursery stock, firewood or wood products. Carefully observe nursery stock, particularly if originating near areas where emerald ash borer is known to occur, and be alert to suspicious dieback of ash trees in your community.

Report any material suspected to be infested to: North Dakota Department of Agriculture 701-328-4765 or 701-239-7295, North Dakota Forest Service - 701-231-5936, or USDA-APHIS - 701-250-4473



Adult on penny



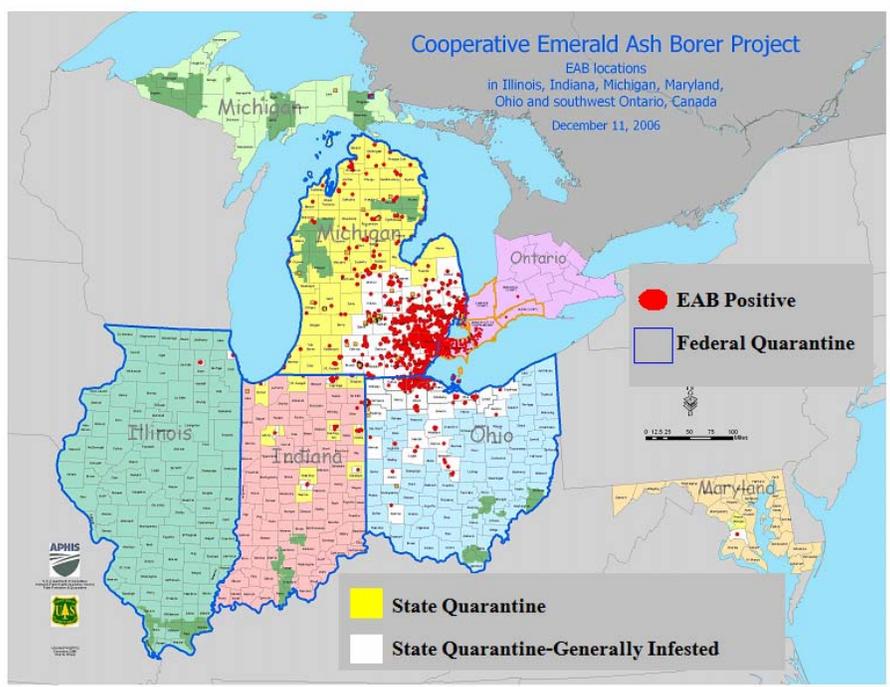
Late stage larva



D-shaped exit hole



Tunneling created by larval feeding



Dieback with suckers

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For more information refer to:

www.agdepartment.com

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