

To

Date

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2 pages from Jeanette Merrick

*ALBERTA'S EMERALD
ASH BORER FORUM*



Photo Courtesy: Barry Lyons, NRCan

Wednesday, February 16th, 2011

The Alberta Emerald Ash Borer Forum was held in Edmonton, Alberta by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency February 16th, 2011.

Approximately 147 persons attended such as nursery growers, city foresters, arborists, IPM managers, farmers, private campgrounds, S.T.O.P.D.E.D. and researchers.

Presentations are available at:

[http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/\\$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/apa13498](http://www1.agric.gov.ab.ca/$department/deptdocs.nsf/all/apa13498)

Summary

The information presented an update of research, detection and monitoring techniques, impact and regulatory policies on the Emerald Ash Borer (E.A.B.) from the studies and effects on the municipalities in Ontario. Also the anticipated impact on the ash trees within the City of Edmonton, effect on the nursery stock and future directions of the industry and the ash distribution through the Prairie Shelterbelt Program.

Speakers

Barry Lyons – Canadian Forest Services: Introduction and latest research

Troy Kimoto – Canadian Food Inspection Agency: C.F.I.A. Surveys

Jason Pollard – City of Ottawa: Municipality Perspective

Mireille Marcotte – Canadian Food Inspection Agency: Regulatory policies

Jenny Wheeler & Mike Jenkins – City of Edmonton: Anticipated impact

Nigel Bowles – Landscape Alberta Nursery Trades Ass.: Effect on ash supply

Bruce Hesselink – Ag. and Agri-Food Canada: Prairie Shelterbelt Program

Impact in Alberta

Emerald ash borer has not been detected in Alberta but is a serious threat to the urban and rural plantings.

The ash is also a large percentage of a long-term investment planting at a majority of nurseries.

Control methods

Canadian Food Inspection Agency (C.F.I.A.) currently regulates Emerald Ash Borer through restricted movement of ash trees from infested areas and enforcement of fines.

Two methods of inspection are ground surveys and branch sampling. The ground surveys are economical and symptoms are easily identified. Specific indicators of infestation can be observed with binoculars on a suspect tree. Branch sampling is also a supported method of identification especially for persons working in pruning and removal of ash trees.

Training for identification can be customized for professionals such as arborists, urban foresters and pest managers as well as public outreach programs. Details of identification and symptoms such as “citizen scientists” who can identify symptoms of their neighborhoods and the dangers of moving firewood.

Resources

A Visual Guide to Detecting Emerald Ash Borer Damage is available at http://dsp-psd.pwgsc.gc.ca/collection_2008/nrcan/Fo124-6-2006E.pdf.

An Ounce of Prevention. How the History of DED is Affecting Arboriculture in Ontario (Focus on EAB), Ontario Arborist, July/August 2010, Pat Kerr.

<http://www.isaontario.com/content/ounce-prevention-how-history-ded-affecting-arboriculture-ontario-focus-eab>

Emerald Ash Borer strategies in Alberta

In the afternoon the participants split into groups and compiled lists of concerns and suggested actions.

Top concerns discussed:

- firewood and nursery stock being brought in from infested areas.
- restricted plantings and creating monocultures.
- public and industry education.

These discussions will be compiled and a follow-up meeting is planned for June 2011.