

EMERALD ASH BORER



WHAT IS THE THREAT:

The Emerald Ash Borer (*Agrilus planipennis*), or EAB, is an invasive wood boring beetle that was first introduced from Asia to Detroit, Michigan in 2002 and is known to have spread to 36 states and four provinces. This small, metallic green wood-boring beetle attacks multiple ash species and can go unnoticed for several years. The larvae live under the bark of the tree and feed on the vascular cambium through the fall and winter. The feeding produce long serpentine galleries that can girdle branches and the main stem and lead to tree mortality.

WHERE IS THE THREAT:

EAB infests all ash species, but most commonly attack green, white and black ash. Initial infestations were documented in Michigan and Ontario Canada. Populations continued to spread throughout the Midwest and Canada. In 2013, EAB eventually found its way to New England, Georgia, and Colorado. By 2019, infestations have been confirmed from Texas and South Dakota, to Nova Scotia, Canada.

SYMPTOMS:

EAB larvae live under the bark and create meandering galleries through the phloem, cambium and the xylem layers, effectively girdling the tree. In response to upper canopy dieback, trees will sprout new (epicormic) branches in the lower crown. Adults create D-shaped exit holes when they emerge in June. Bark cracks that reveal larval galleries and woodpecker activity are also signs of EAB infestation. Since EAB often goes unnoticed for several years, trees may die within two years of the onset of symptoms.

WHAT TO DO ABOUT IT:

For best outcomes, Arborjet recommends treatment of trees that still appear healthy (dieback symptoms <40%) when EAB is detected in your area. Our most effective solutions include two emamectin benzoate products, TREE-äge® R10 and TREE-äge® G4 . Both products can be applied anytime there is good soil moisture, usually June through September. In dry conditions, a follow up application of NutriRoot® could improve tree health. IMA-jet® provides annual control and may be preferred when piercing, sucking insects are present.



EAB larvae



EAB caused crown dieback of ash tree



EAB larval galleries

Header Image taken by: Dave Cappaert, EAB larvae taken by: Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources - Forestry Archive, Bugwood.org
EAB infested ash taken by: Joseph O'Brien, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org, EAB galleries taken by: Arborjet, Inc.

TREE-äge® Insecticide is a Restricted Use Pesticide and must only be sold to and used by a state certified applicator or by persons under their direct supervision.