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Quarantine Repeal

Emerald Ash Borer Interior State Quarantine

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, for the reasons set forth below, is repealing the Emerald Ash Borer Interior Quarantine issued on July 16, 2002 and subsequently amended.

Emerald ash borer (EAB), *Agrilus planipennis* Fairmaire, an exotic beetle not known to occur in the United States, was first discovered in southeastern Michigan near Detroit in the summer of 2002. EAB likely arrived in the Detroit area on solid wood packing material carried in cargo ships or airplanes originating in its native environment of Asia.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development implemented an interior state quarantine in 2002, restricting the movement of ash material within the state, to slow the spread of this pest. The quarantine was revised multiple times over a period of 16 years as additional counties became infested and were added to the regulated area.

EAB has now been found in 79 of Michigan's 83 counties, as well as in 35 states and five Canadian provinces. Although there have been no detections in 3 of Michigan's western Upper Peninsula counties, it is believed that EAB is present at some density in those counties.

As a result of the repeal of this interior state quarantine, the USDA will incorporate the three unregulated Michigan counties into the federal EAB exterior quarantine, thereby regulating the entire state. This will allow for the free movement of regulated articles such as ash logs and ash lumber across the multi-state, contiguous area under the federal EAB quarantine.

Therefore, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) hereby repeals its Emerald Ash Borer Interior Quarantine under its authority under the Insect and Plant Diseases Act, MCL 286.251 *et seq.*

Gordon Wenk, Director

10/1/2018

Date