

? Emerald ash borer has been confirmed near the Floyd County community of Georgetown, Ind., just 14 miles northwest of Louisville. Floyd County joins Kosciusko County as a recent addition to the list of infested counties in Indiana. The Kosciusko County find was announced July 21. The Floyd County find occurred near the town of Georgetown and is in Georgetown Township. The DNR will conduct additional surveys around the sites to determine the extent of the infestations.

Floyd is the 19th Indiana county with a confirmed EAB infestation. It is the first county in the southern half of the state and the first Indiana county south of Indianapolis to have EAB. Other infested and quarantined counties include Adams, Allen, DeKalb, Elkhart, Hamilton, Huntington, LaGrange, Marion, Noble, Porter, Randolph, St. Joseph, Steuben, Wabash, Wells, White and Whitley.

Quarantine procedures are being implemented in Kosciusko and Floyd counties to help manage the spread of this serious threat to the ash resource. The quarantine regulates the movement of ash products--including ash nursery trees, ash logs and all types of hardwood firewood. It will not be legal to transport these items out of Georgetown Township. In addition, all of Floyd County will be under quarantine and ash products may move within the county, but not outside it.

The insect was detected on a purple panel trap, which is part of a detection survey by the U.S. Department of Agriculture Animal Plant Health Inspection Service and the Department of Natural Resources (DNR).

"The purple panel traps are proving very useful in finding this insect," Purdue University entomologist Jodie Ellis said. "The traps are alerting us to populations of emerald ash borer earlier in the process than previous methods allowed, which helps in preventing further spread." This latest find joins a recent string of detections, including one near a campground at Wappapello Lake in southern Missouri and another in the Wisconsin village of Newburg, about 32 miles north of Milwaukee.

"The infestation confirmed in Missouri was found in a purple panel trap, while in Wisconsin a citizen notified local officials about symptoms on his tree that he correctly assumed were caused by emerald ash borer," Ellis said. "Although the purple panel traps provide an efficient detection method, it is still vitally important that citizens know what to look for and stay alert."

Symptoms of an infested ash tree include dieback of leaves in the upper third of the canopy, vertical splits in the bark, D-shaped exit holes, S-shaped tunnels under the bark, heavy woodpecker activity and water sprouts at the base of the trunk.

"In addition to keeping an eye out for symptoms on ash trees, we continue emphasizing to citizens how important it is not to move firewood," Ellis said. "Most infestations are not a result of the natural movement of emerald ash borer, but rather because unsuspecting citizens have moved firewood."

For more information on symptoms of emerald ash borer, locations of infestations and other resources, go online to

<http://www.entm.purdue.edu/eab>. To report an infestation, call the Indiana DNR's toll-free hotline at (866) NO EXOTIC (663-9684). Other questions may be directed to Ellis at (765) 494-0822, ellisj@purdue.edu.