

USDA Biological Control Facility Seeks Ash Trees for Parasitoid Production

Landowners Support Program to Combat the Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

Countless landowners have donated their ash trees to support the parasitoid production facility in Brighton Michigan, what about you?

The biocontrol facility uses a variety of sizes of ash trees—between 8 and 20 inches in DBH (diameter at breast height)—to support our production process each year.



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Here's what we need in a harvest site:

- 25 or more ash trees on your property
- Ash trees can show some signs of decline
- The larger trees (7-20 inches in DBH) must be a minimum of 50 feet away from any building
- Ash tree height is not as important as diameter – we can harvest any height of tree
- The ash tree harvest takes place between September and May
- Ash trees are harvested Monday - Friday, during regular business hours

If you have any stands of ash trees, you would be willing to donate, we are interested in speaking with you.

Call 734-732-0025 and ask for Paul Nelson or
Email him at Paul.M.Nelson@aphis.usda.gov

Thanks for Helping to Take a Stand Against Hungry Pests

What is EAB?

The Emerald Ash Borer (*Agrilus planipennis* or EAB) is the beetle responsible for the destruction of tens of millions of ash trees in 30 states. Native to Asia, it arrived in southeastern Michigan in 2002 in wood packing materials. One tool the USDA is using to manage this pest is biological control.

What is Biocontrol?

Biological control (Biocontrol) is the reduction of pest populations through the use of natural enemies such as parasitoids (stingless wasps), predators, pathogens, antagonists (to control plant diseases), or competitors. It is a practical option to suppress pest populations and an environmentally sound method of pest control.

USDA Parasitoid Rearing Facility

In 2009, USDA established a Biological Control Production Facility in Brighton Michigan to mass-rear stingless wasps for release in the EAB-infested states. Early on, parasitoid production was modest and biocontrol releases were limited to a few States. Production of the four stingless wasps at the Brighton facility now tops several hundred thousand and has been released in 25 States.

Learn more, go to:
USDA EAB Q & A's

https://www.aphis.usda.gov/publications/plant_health/2014/faq_eab_biocontrol.pdf

