

# Nursery, Seed, Plant Export and Protection News

Winter 2012



In this issue you'll find information about:

Invasive Pests & Diseases • Aquatic Hyacinth • Nursery & Seed Registration  
Nursery & Japanese Beetle Rule Changes • Plant Industry Field Services Territories & Staff News

## Protecting Our Urban Forests From Invasive Pests and Disease Help Prevent the Introduction of the Emerald Ash Borer, Asian Longhorned Beetle, and Gypsy Moth



**Emerald Ash Borer**  
2100048



**Asian Longhorned Beetle**  
1265006



**Gypsy Moth**  
2652067

Emerald ash borer is a non-native, wood-boring beetle that can attack all native ash species. This insect was first found in North America in 2002, in southeastern Michigan and adjacent Ontario, Canada. It likely arrived in the early 1990s from Asia, and has spread quickly, largely due to human movement of firewood. To date, 18 states and two Canadian provinces have confirmed EAB infestations. Infested trees die within 1 to 2 years.

Known as the starry sky or sky beetle, this is native to eastern China, Japan, and Korea. This species has now been accidentally introduced to the United States, where it was first discovered in 1996, as well as Canada and several countries in Europe. The Asian longhorned beetle is now one of the most destructive non-native insects in the United States; it and other wood-boring pests cause an estimated \$3.5 billion in annual damages in the United States.

The gypsy moth was introduced into North America in 1869 from Europe. The caterpillar pupae eat the leaves of more than 300 species of trees, defoliating large areas of forests. The moth causes widespread defoliation and costs the economy millions of dollars in damages. Total defoliation in America from 1970 to 2010, was 80.4 million acres, with 1981 being the worst year with 12.9 million acres defoliated.

### CDA Efforts in Planning to Manage the Threat

The Colorado Dept. of Agriculture sees the Emerald Ash Borer as the most pertinent threat of these three pests, and is devising plans to protect our urban forests. Those plans include:

- Diversify our urban forest species with a mix of young and mature trees, and no more than 10% of one species in a city's tree population.
- Use local firewood. Don't transport pests from one area to another, and dry firewood for at least two years prior to moving it.
- Store infested wood in collection or marshaling yards where it can be sorted, processed, treated and merchandised. This would be a joint effort of state and local officials.

## We Need Your Input on Aquatic Hyacinth

This pretty plant is living life on the edge. Water Hyacinth, a floating perennial herb, has become a serious weed in the Gulf Coastal states since its introduction from Brazil at an 1884 exposition in New Orleans.

In infested areas, waterways become clogged each summer with water hyacinths that crowd out other species, interfere with sports fishing and ensnare thousands of boat propellers.

Though usually killed by frost, recent mild winters have allowed some populations to overwinter in protected places in the Southern United States.

Water hyacinth is a fast growing plant capable of holding its rosette of glossy-green, waxy leaves up to two feet above the water. The leaves are trowel shaped with a conspicuously swollen stem of the leaf that's spongy and aids in floating.

Each rosette forms a series of floating horizontal stems that radiate in all directions and terminates in a new rosette of leaves. The plant quickly forms large floating mats that blow around with the wind. In ideal conditions, such as in Florida, the size of a colony can double in size in six to 10 days when the water temperature is around 85 degrees.

The common name is a reference to the flowering spike that shoots from the whorl of leaves during the summer months. Eight to 15 lavender to bluish flowers are produced on stems that can reach a foot in height.

This plant is listed as a noxious weed in Alabama, Arizona, California, Florida, South Carolina and Texas.

Currently the State of Colorado is considering adding this plant to its list of noxious weeds, which means that sales of the plant would be prohibited in Colorado.

### We need to hear from you

How would your business be affected, if at all, if this plant were to be banned in Colorado?

Please contact Laura Pottorff, Nursery Program Manager, at [laura.pottorff@state.co.us](mailto:laura.pottorff@state.co.us), or you can call her at (303) 239-4153.

The Division of Plant Industries for the Colorado Department of Agriculture wants to ensure that your voice is heard before a major decision is made on the fate of the water hyacinth. Thank you.

Wilfredo Robles, Mississippi State University, Bugwood.org





## Nursery and Seed Registration - It's the Law

Anyone who sells or advertises with the intent to sell nursery stock in the state of Colorado must be registered. The source of the stock, or who grows it, does not matter. This means that individuals or companies that provide or install nursery stock as part of a service, must also be registered.

For example, landscapers might purchase nursery stock from a licensed vendor and then "re-sell" plants to a customer. In this case, a nursery registration is required regardless of whether the landscaper holds the plant material or not.

Tree collectors also need to have a nursery registration. Like the landscaper, a tree collector does not grow the nursery stock, but a collected tree is sold to a potential customer. The sale of nursery stock is the key factor in determining if a license is required.

The 2013 registration renewals have gone out. Please note that it is a double-sided document. Also note that some of last year's information is already printed on the application.

**Please notify the Colorado Department of Agriculture of any changes or additions in the spaces provided.**

- Applications must be signed and dated.
- **Questions 1 through 3 are required information.** *This includes Landscape Contractors and Collectors.*
- **Sole Proprietors** must complete the additional Status Verification form.
- A **Nursery** registration is required for each sales location. Optional wallet-size registration cards are available upon request at \$5.00 each. Registration descriptions and costs continue through reverse side of the application.
- A **Seed** registration is required for any businesses selling or processing seed in either bulk or in packages 1 pound and larger. This includes grass seed.
- Registration descriptions and costs continue through the reverse side of your application.

Let us know of any new or closed locations.

If you would like a copy of the nursery and/or seed Act, Rules & Regulations, or have any questions, please feel free to contact our office at (303)239-4154 or [brian.allen@state.co.us](mailto:brian.allen@state.co.us).

You can also access the Nursery Act on our web site: [www.colorado.gov/ag/dpi](http://www.colorado.gov/ag/dpi).

Registrations are due March 1, 2013. There will be a late fee charged for applications received after that date.

## Colorado Nursery Rule Changes - Anticipated Effective Date: March 1, 2013

### The Colorado Nursery Act

Trees and other woody plants often face challenges growing in the Colorado climate. They also add economic value to our urban landscapes. As such, the Colorado Nursery Act aims to provide consumers with nursery stock that is most likely to survive and thrive by regulating quality and health at the time of purchase.

The Colorado Nursery Act Rules have not had major updates since 1973. Per the Governor's request that Rules be reviewed for clarity and unenforceable language, the Nursery rules have undergone some major edits.

### The Reason for the Changes

Many sections were removed from the Rules that dealt with plant specifications that Industry uses as aesthetic standards.

For example, the former nursery rules requires a type 1 standard shade tree that has a ½ - ¾ inch caliper (diameter of trunk at 6 inches above ground) be within 5 – 8 feet in height. A shade tree meeting this type of standard may be aesthetically more pleasing, but had no place in law that is intended to be enforced.

### Protecting the Consumer

The purpose of the Colorado Nursery Act is to prevent sale of nursery stock that is insect, disease and weed infested as well as provide the consumer peace of mind that the tree, woody plant or perennial purchased has optimum survivability characteristics. Optimum survivability or success of transplant can be directly related to plant health (absence of diseases and pests) as well as size of the plant's root system prior to transplant.

In addition to deleting rules that were no longer necessary, CDA Nursery program staff worked closely with the attorney general's office to re-word items to be more easily understood by the regulated community.

All the changes proposed to the nursery act were discussed in great detail with representatives of the Nursery and Landscape industry and must receive final approval from the Colorado Agricultural Commission prior to adoption.

### Proposed Rule Changes regarding Japanese Beetles

In 2009, the Colorado legislature established section 35-4-110 C.R.S. of the "Colorado Pest Control Act" to deal with the potential of Japanese beetle infestations. In December of 2010, the Colorado Department of Agriculture issued 8 CCR 1203-21 that established quarantine and quarantine protocols specifically for Japanese beetles.

As of October, 2012, the Commissioner of the Colorado Department of Agriculture is proposing amendments in order to make the ruling more effective and easier to implement. Portions of section 5.00, Restrictions, have been eliminated. These include the Nursery Accreditation Program Soil Sampling Protocol.

The purposes of these amendments are to:

1. Eliminate the soil survey/sampling protocol; and
2. Establish a container size limit under the Container Certification protocol.

*Japanese Beetle continued...*

The issues encountered in proposing these amendments are as follows:

The soil survey/sampling protocol for certification of field grown nursery stock is not rigorous, and potential risk of introduction of Japanese beetle larvae in harvested root balls of large nursery stock is high when using this certification protocol. As such, it is proposed that the entire protocol be eliminated.

Harvested field grown nursery stock may instead enter the state of Colorado with the remaining treatment protocols currently listed in the quarantine.

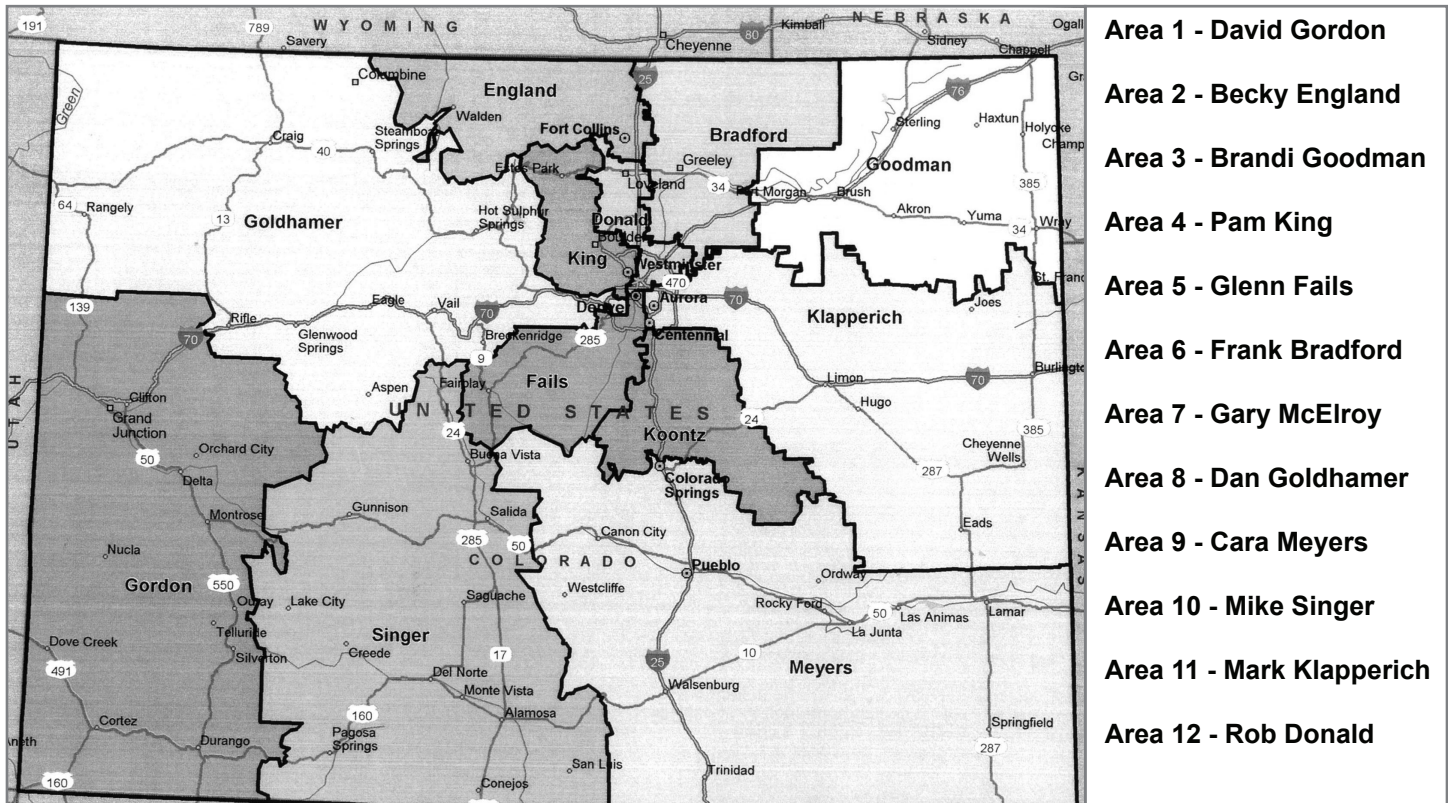
Containerized nursery stock is allowed entry into the state under a protocol whereby the container must not directly sit on top of soil. Containers that sit on top of raised benches or on some type of barrier such as gravel or landscape fabric are eligible for certification. Currently any sized container is eligible when produced in this manner. However, larger sized containers, or containers bigger than 16" in diameter pose a high risk for introduction of beetle larvae, even when produced under the container protocol. Therefore a restriction on the size of container eligible for certification using this protocol is warranted.

Containers less than 16" in diameter pose reduced risk and will still remain eligible for certification using the container certification protocol. Nursery stock in containers larger than 16" in diameter are eligible for certification via dip treatment.

These changes are scheduled to go into effect March 1, 2013.

If you have any additional questions, please call the Laura Pottorff at (303) 239-4153.

## Plant Industry Field Services Territories, and Division of Plant Industries Inspectors



The map above outlines the inspection areas for our field inspectors. You can see the inspector's name in bold in the middle of each territory. If you need an inspection, contact the Lakewood office at (303) 239-4140 and we can put you in contact with the appropriate inspector.

### Staff Additions at the Division of Plant Industry

In order to better serve the public, the Division of Plant Industry (DPI) has added staff. The newcomers are;

Cheryl Vestal, who is helping with the phytosanitary certificates, nurseries and Japanese Beetle trapping. Cheryl has worked in the nursery industry for the past 20+ years, and has excellent working knowledge about plants, plant diseases and the bugs that can plague them.

Gail Gnirk, who helps process the phytosanitary certificates, and assists in the Organics Program. Gail started with the Colorado Department of Agriculture in June, 2011, and worked for six months at the front desk of the Commissioner's office. She then spent six months with the Brands Division before returning to Lakewood

to work for the Plants Division in July, 2012. Gail replaced Summer Threlkeld who went to work outside the state system.

Continuing to provide excellent service is Brian Allen, who helps oversee the nursery and seed programs.

Laura Pottorff continues to provide direction to everyone in the nursery, seed, plant export and protection system.

Overseeing the entire Division of Plant Industry is Mitch Yergert, who brings years of expertise to bear on helping to shape the safety and continuity of the plant industry in the state of Colorado.

Please feel free to contact any one of us with questions you may have on your nursery, seed or plant export business. We are here to help.

Please note our email addresses have recently changed.

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The Plant Export Program certifies regulated commodities for freedom of plant diseases and insects. Here is a look at where some of these Colorado products are traveling.

**Commodity (Latin Name) / Countries shipped to:**

**Aspen** Kiln Dried Lumber  
(*Populus tremuloides*)  
China

**Barley** Seed (*Hordeum vulgare*)  
Argentina, Canada, Chile, China,  
France, Germany, New Zealand,  
Russian Federation, Uruguay

**Bean** Grain (*Phaseolus vulgaris*)  
Angola, Australia, Dominican  
Republic, Haiti, Mexico, New  
Zealand, United Arab Emirates

**Bedding** plants *Various* Plugs  
Bahamas, Canada, Jamaica,  
Trinidad and Tobago

**Carrot** Seed (*Daucus carota*)  
Australia

**Carrot** Vegetables (*Daucus carota*)  
Mexico

**Coconut fiber** Mats  
(*Cocos nucifera*)  
Canada, Panama, Peru

**Flowers** *Various* Seed  
China, Denmark, France, Germany,  
Japan, Korea (Republic of), Latvia,  
Malaysia, Netherlands, Poland,  
Portugal, South Africa, Spain,  
Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey

**Herb and flower** *Various* Seed  
Chile, Mexico, Russian Federation

**Hibiscus** Plugs (*Hibiscus sp.*)  
Denmark

**Iris** Rhizomes (*Iris sp.*)  
Germany

**Millet** Grain (*Panicum milliaecum*)  
Bahrain, Chile, Columbia, Costa  
Rico, France, Guatemala, Honduras,  
Indonesia, Israel, Italy, Jordan,  
Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico,  
New Zealand, Oman, Palestinian  
Territory, Peru, Philippines, Saudi  
Arabia, Singapore, Taiwan, Thailand,  
United Arab Emirates

**Onion** Seed (*Allium cepa*)  
Australia, Chile, Columbia, Peru

**Onion** Vegetables (*Allium cepa*)  
Mexico

**Popcorn** Grain (*Zea mays*)  
Mexico, United Arab Emirates

**Potato** Seed (*Solanum tuberosum*)  
Canada, Congo, Egypt, Jamaica,  
Korea (Republic of), Nicaragua,  
Uruguay

**Potato** Vegetables  
(*Solanum tuberosum*)  
Mexico

**Pumpkin** Seed (*Cucurbita pepo*)  
South Africa, United Kingdom

**Squash** Seed (*Cucurbita pepo*)  
Albania, Argentina, Australia,  
Austria, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile,  
China, Columbia, Costa Rico,  
Egypt, France, Germany, Greece,  
Guatemala, Honduras, India, Iran,  
Iraq, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kenya,  
Kosovo, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan,  
Lebanon, Libya, Malta, Mexico,  
Morocco, Netherlands, New Zealand,  
Oman, Pakistan, Qatar, Romania,  
Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia,  
Serbia, South Africa, Spain, Sri  
Lanka, Sitzerland, Syrian Arab  
Republic, Taiwan, Thailand, Turkey,  
United Arab Emirates, United  
Kingdom, Uruguay, Yemen

**Sugar Beet** Seed (*Beta vulgaris*)  
France

**Sunflower** Grain  
(*Helianthus annus*)  
Argentina, China, Egypt, Iraq, Israel,  
Jordan, Lebanon, Mexico, Qatar,  
Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, Tunisia,  
Turkey

**Sunflower** Seed  
(*Helianthus annus*)  
Malaysia

**Watermelon** Seed  
(*Citrullus lanatus*)  
Albania, Algeria, Argentina,  
Australia, Austria, Bolivia, Bosnia  
and Herzegovina, Brazil, Chile,  
China, Columbia, France, French  
Polynesia, Georgia, Germany,  
Greece, Honduras, India, Iran, Iraq,  
Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan,  
Kenya, Kosovo, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan,  
Lebanon, Libya, Macedonia, Malta,  
Moldova (Republic of), Morocco,  
Netherlands, New Zealand, Oman,  
Pakistan, Peru, Romania, Russian  
Federation, Saudi Arabia, Serbia,  
South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka,  
Sudan, Suriname, Syrian Arab  
Republic, Thailand, Turkey, Ukraine,  
United Arab Emirates, United  
Kingdom, Uruguay, Uzbekistan,  
Venezuela, Yemen

**Wheat** Seed (*Triticum sp.*)  
Canada, France

**Wheat straw** Fiber Mats  
(*Triticum aestivum*)  
Canada