

State of Illinois  
Pat Quinn, Governor

Department of Agriculture  
Tom Jennings, Director



# EAB NEWS

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## THE FIGHT IS ON!!!



EAB adults emerging from an ash tree after their destructive life cycle

In that corner, emerald ash borer (EAB),  
the metallic green beetle wreaking havoc  
on ash trees across North America -

and in  
**THIS** corner  
*Oobius*:  
EAB's  
**NEMESIS!!**



*Oobius agrili*-Solitary, egg parasitoid. Photo shows female laying egg in EAB egg

USDA Forest Service, USDA APHIS, and City of Chicago and Evanston land-managers released a few hundred parasitic wasps called *Oobius* on EAB-infested ash trees this July. These non-stinging wasps, each smaller than a poppy seed, are now spending long summer days searching and destroying EAB eggs, which are laid on the bark of ash trees. *Oobius* is one of three EAB natural enemies from China being evaluated for efficacy as biological control agents of EAB.

In 2004, Forest Service researchers discovered *Oobius* attacking EAB eggs on ash trees in northeastern China and began studying them in their laboratory in East Lansing, Michigan. *Oobius* and other small parasitic wasps coevolved with EAB in Asia and are important in controlling EAB populations and subsequent damage to ash trees. Hopefully, *Oobius* will restore the balance of nature for ash trees in North America as well.

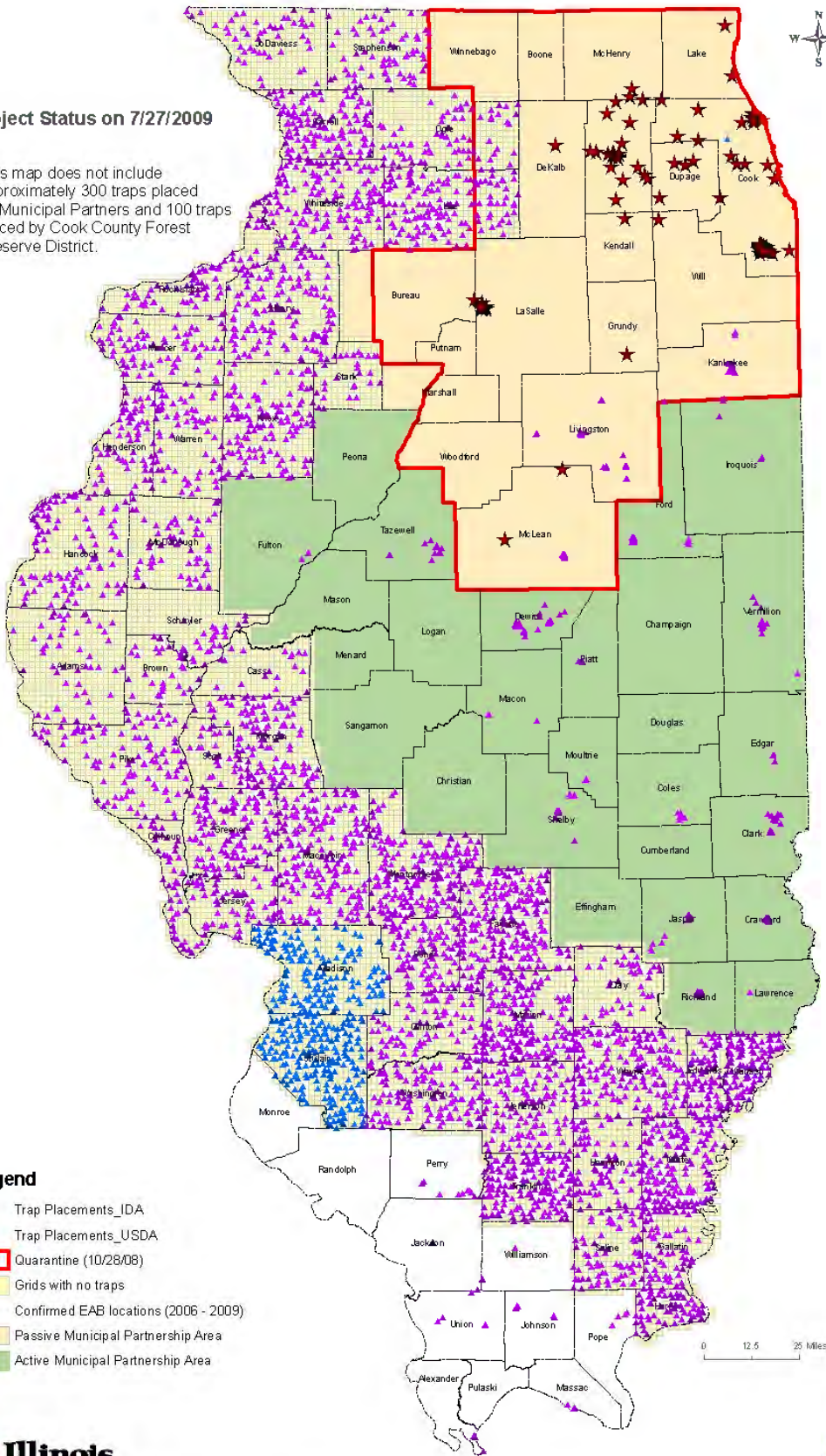
*Oobius* is harmless to humans but deadly to EAB. These mini-wasps kill EAB by laying eggs inside EAB eggs, consuming them to reproduce. They are predators of EAB, and may help provide natural and sustainable control of EAB in North America. Although biological control of EAB may be too late for many of the older, EAB-infested ash trees, these natural enemies offer hope as a management strategy in future years for young ash tree growing throughout the forests in our parks and riparian areas. For more info on *Oobius* and other natural predators of EAB, please visit [www.emeraldashborer.info](http://www.emeraldashborer.info)



### Illinois EAB Trap Survey 2009

#### Project Status on 7/27/2009

This map does not include approximately 300 traps placed by Municipal Partners and 100 traps placed by Cook County Forest Preserve District.



#### Legend

- ▲ Trap Placements\_IDA
- ▲ Trap Placements\_USDA
- Quarantine (10/28/08)
- Grids with no traps
- ★ Confirmed EAB locations (2006 - 2009)
- Passive Municipal Partnership Area
- Active Municipal Partnership Area

**EAB adult trap placement completed** – IDA staff members have completed the placement of purple “sticky” traps throughout the state. The trap placement began in far southern Illinois on April 6. IDA and USDA-APHIS staff members visited over 10,000 grid areas (1.5 x 1.5 mile squares) throughout southern and western Illinois to place 1ft x 2 ft prism-shaped purple “sticky” traps in ash trees to assist in the detection of EAB infestations. The traps have been baited with an EAB attractant. Traps will remain deployed until mid- August when they will be retrieved and analyzed. Final numbers regarding traps deployed, grids visited, etc., will be provided in future reports as the final deployment data is added to the database. A status map and table regarding the deployed traps follows. During the next few weeks, staff members will be visiting municipalities that are participating in the trapping program to verify trap locations and complete data collection in those areas.





| <i>Item</i>               | <i>Total # of traps deployed</i> | <i>Total # of grids omitted</i> | <i>Total # of grids visited</i> | <i>% of grids receiving traps</i> |
|---------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| [Current as of 7/28/2009] |                                  |                                 |                                 |                                   |
| IDA                       | 4,267                            | 6,248                           | 10,507                          | 41                                |
| USDA (grid area)          | 373                              | 192                             | 565                             | 66                                |
| USDA (passive area)       | 112                              | ---                             | ---                             | ---                               |
| U of I / INHS             | 46                               | ---                             | ---                             | ---                               |
| Municipalities            | 729                              | ---                             | ---                             | ---                               |
| ISU (Chenoa)              | 70                               | ---                             | ---                             | ---                               |
| <b>TOTALS</b>             | <b>5,597</b>                     | <b>6,440</b>                    | <b>11,072</b>                   | <b>---</b>                        |

## NEW FINDS

EAB Program staff members are currently conducting EAB field investigations in targeted locations to find and confirm the presence of EAB. In mid July, five new communities were confirmed to have EAB infestations: Hinckley, Rosemont, Elgin, Schiller Park, and Bartlett. An additional eight new communities were confirmed in late July: Frankfort, Sycamore, Marengo, Addison, Lombard, Hanover Park, Park Ridge, and Flossmoor. IDA continues to investigate other suspicious areas in other communities.

## MONITORING

EAB staff members are also monitoring EAB municipal traps set in targeted locations in NE Illinois and continue to respond to numerous leads and suspect sites statewide including survey work with IDNR forestry staff at larger state parks. Similar work including confirmation investigations will continue. Staff have also begun to remove and analyze purple traps within our statewide grid beginning in mid-August.



# ATTENTION ALL FIREWOOD IMPORTERS

Be sure you are registered in compliance with the  
Illinois Department of Agriculture.

Please register by filling out this form:

<http://www.agr.state.il.us/eab/data/200901026261.pdf>



# www.IllinoisEAB.com

If you suspect EAB, please contact your city forester or local arborist or take digital photographs of the tree and the symptoms it is expressing and email them with contact info to: [AGR.EAB@Illinois.gov](mailto:AGR.EAB@Illinois.gov)



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