



STATE OF MAINE  
 DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, CONSERVATION & FORESTRY  
 BOARD OF PESTICIDES CONTROL  
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 AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333

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 COMMISSIONER

Memorandum

To: Board of Pesticides Control

From: John Pietroski | Manager of Pesticide Programs | Maine Board of Pesticides Control

Subject: Elongate Hemlock Scale

Date: April 7, 2023

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Staff received a request to add Elongate Hemlock Scale (EHS) to the policy on “Approved Invasive Invertebrate Pests On Ornamental Vegetation In Outdoor Residential Landscapes For Neonicotinoids Exemption”. EHS is an invasive insect.

The BPC was contacted by a commercial applicator who has previously used neonicotinoids to treat for EHS. Addition of EHS to the above policy will allow applicators to use neonicotinoids for the purpose of managing EHS in outdoor ornamental vegetation in residential landscapes. Pests not listed in the above policy may not be managed through the application of neonicotinoids in residential landscapes unless an emergency use permit is obtained from the Board.

According to the Maine Forest Service, “*EHS—Fiorinia externa Ferris*, is a serious exotic pest of eastern hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*). It also can be found on fir, spruce and other conifers. EHS attacks the surface of the hemlock needle and sucks out the fluid. This process causes the needles to turn yellow and drop prematurely.

*Distribution in US: South to Georgia and South Carolina, west to Ohio, Michigan and Minnesota and, north to southern New York and New England (including southern NH and ME).*

*Infestations of EHS on planted trees have been found from Kittery to Mount Desert. To date, forest infestations in the absence of planted trees have only been found in Kittery and Frye Island. It is very probable that EHS is established in Maine's forests outside of these areas.”*

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**Towns with known infestations:**

County	Town	EHS Status
Cumberland	Cape Elizabeth, Casco, Freeport, Portland, Scarborough, Yarmouth	known on planted trees
Cumberland	Brunswick, Frye Island, Gorham, Falmouth	moved from planted trees, now established in forest
Hancock	Mount Desert	moved from planted trees, now established in forest
Hancock	Sedgwick	known on planted trees
Sagadahoc	Bath, Topsham	known on planted trees
York	Kittery	widely established in forest
York	Berwick, Kennebunk, Kennebunkport, Ogunquit, Old Orchard Beach, Saco, Wells, York	known on planted trees

The United States Department of Agriculture lists dinotefuran as an active ingredient used to treat EHS.

The BPC currently has three invasive insects as part of this policy:

Asian long-horned beetle (*Anoplophora labripennis*)

Emerald ash borer (*Agrilus planipennis*)

Hemlock woolly adelgid (*Adelges tsugae*)