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TO: Tree and Shrub Sellers

FROM: Gary Fish, Maine State Horticulturist

SUBJECT: White Fringe Tree, *Chionanthus virginicus*, and Emerald Ash Borer

Now that emerald ash borer (EAB) has been discovered in northern Maine, you may want to remove white fringe tree, *Chionanthus virginicus*, from your inventory. White fringe tree has been widely attacked by EAB across the country as it is a close relative to ash, *Fraxinus spp.*

Of course, white, green and brown/black ash are all very susceptible and should also be removed from inventory now.

Mountain ash, *Sorbus spp.*, is not susceptible to EAB attack, but does succumb to round and flat headed borers, fire blight, cankers, fall webworm and sawflies and not a tree that I recommend unless the customer is looking for a short timer with multiple pest problems.

Although there is no quarantine in effect at this time, it is important to inform customers who request ash or white fringe tree that EAB will make its way into the rest of Maine over the next 10 – 15 years and most likely kill the majority of unprotected ash and white fringe trees.

If you have any questions, please contact me 207-287-7545 or gary.fish@maine.gov.

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