

# Landscape Alberta Nursery Trades Association

Presentation to the Emerald Ash Borer Forum February 16, 2011

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# Landscape Alberta Nursery Trades Association

- **Established**: 1957
- Members: Nursery growers, garden centres, landscape contractors, arborists and turf producers
- **Activities**: Certification, business & technical training, publications, industry liaison, research & funding, lobbyists
- National initiatives: Vineland, Red Seal, Occupational standards
- **Administration**: Staff of 6 people located in Edmonton

#### Outlook for Alberta's Commercial Tree Nursery Industry

Profile & Prospects





Landscape Alberta Nursery Trades Association

Report prepared by



Major funding by
Agriculture Food Council

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# Alberta Commercial Tree Nursery Profile (Growth since 1999)

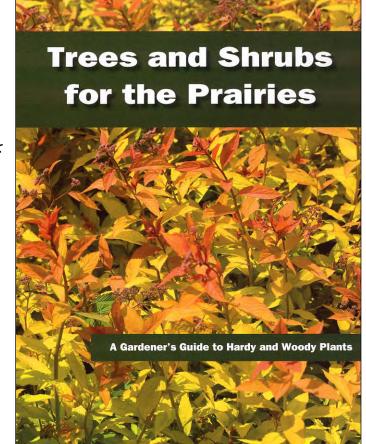
- Number of Growers: 150 (70 +54%)
- □ Acres under production: 5,900 (3,688 +34%)
- Number of employees: 1,300 (537 2x)
- Farm gate sales: \$77,000,000.00 (\$28,000,000.00 2.3x)

## Number of growing seasons required to produce saleable ash spp. trees.

- □ 50 mm = 4 5 growing seasons
- 70 90 mm = 6 7 growing seasons
- Long-term investment to produce product

## Most popular species/cultivars of ash trees grown for the prairie market.

- Foothills Green Ash
- Northern Gem Ash\*
- Northern Treasure Ash\*
- Patmore Green Ash
- Prairie Spire Ash
- Manchurian Ash\*



<sup>\*</sup> Susceptible to Cottony psyllid

#### Major buyers of ash spp. trees:

■ 65% Landscape contractors

■ 20% Governments

□ 10% Others

□ 5% Garden centres

#### Production % committed to ash spp.

- Ranges between 5% and 40%
- Average ash spp. production, 18%
- Example. 5,000 trees in production = 900 ash trees

## Gross revenues (%) derived from the sale of ash spp.

■ Ranges between 2% and 20%

■ Average ash spp. revenues, 12%

■ Example: Gross annual revenues @ \$2,000.000.00 x 12% = \$240,000.00

## **EAB Monitoring**



- Mixed responses
- Some nurseries monitor using traps, others visually, while some not specifically for EAB
- 6 Alberta nurseries enrolled in the national Clean Plants Program. (Highest in Canada.)

#### Clean Plants

## Clean Plants

The Domestic Phytosanitary Certification Program is administered in Canada under the



### Emerald Ash Borer – Urban Impacts

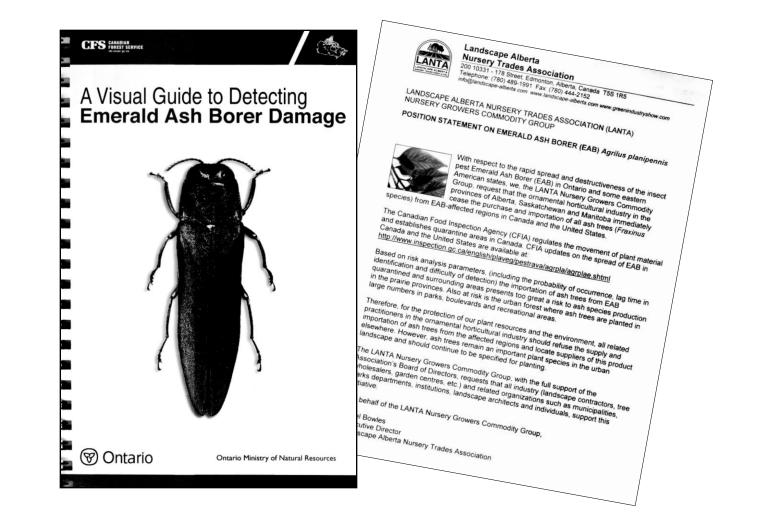
#### **Nursery growers main concerns:**

- Movement of firewood
- Contractors/municipalities buying ash trees from eastern Canada or US
- Restrictive planting
- Creation of monocultures

# Testing of Rural and Urban Shade Trees Program

- Addressing concerns that current rural and urban forests in Canada's colder climate zones are at risk from invasive pest species
- Diverse list of alternative tree cultivars is lacking
- Approximately 150 cultivars will be evaluated through this project

## **Industry Information**



## Questions