BY: Jean Scott

Northeast Sales Representative

APRIL 2007

# PRODUCTION NEWS

The spring rush of orders has definitely tested all of our production systems. We went through major upgrades to our production equipment and have seen the results of these investments in improved production capabilities. One of our key production people had a delayed return to work after receiving major knee replacement surgery further hampering our progress.

The above resulted in delays of many of our products from getting to our customers early in the season. As of this writing we are week by week eliminating our log of backorders and over half of our product line is being shipped the same day the order is received.

We appreciate our customer's patience and understanding as we conquer these early season setbacks.



Keep a green tree in your heart and perhaps a singing bird will come.

- Chinese proverb

## Emerald Ash Borer in Maryl and

In 2003 the Emerald Ash Borer was introduced into Maryland from a shipment of infested ash trees from a nursery in Michigan. A quarantine and eradication program was implemented and approximately 1000 potentially infested ash trees

were removed around the site of the introduction. In 2006 100 sentinel trees planted as part of a surveillance program for EAB were harvested. One tree inside the ½ mile buffer zone in Prince George's County was found to be infested and two trees outside the buffer zone were girdled and found to be infested with larvae.

Ash trees in the forested areas of the Clinton/Brandywine area of Prince George's Country are now being cut down as part of the plan to eliminate the EAB in Maryland.

Removal began in January 2007 and is to be completed by March 31, before the EAB emerges from the trees. The eradication plan includes the removal of all ash trees within a 1.5 mile zone around each ash tree found to be infested with the beetle. All cut trees must be chipped to a size of less than one inch in two directions and a quarantine prohibits moving any ash wood or any firewood out of Prince George's County. It is estimated that eradication will cost upwards of \$4 million in federal funding.

The EAB is responsible for the destruction of over 25 million ash trees in the Mid- West. In Maryland, ash is the most common street tree in Baltimore, making up about 10% of the total trees. About 20% of Maryland streamside trees are ash. USDA has estimated that losses could reach almost \$300 million in the Baltimore area alone.

At the USDA Interagency Research Forum on Invasive Species held in January 2007 in Annapolis, Maryland researchers presented data that showed trees under stress from drought and severely damaged bark are more susceptible to EAB. Trees with rough bark are more attractive to the borers. In a Michigan study woodpecker damage was noted as a good indicator of an EAB infestation, with 79% of the woodpecker holes had borer galleries.

To protect ash trees from the Emerald Ash Borer maintain adequate soil moisture, especially during the summer months. Avoid injuring the trees with mowing equipment and prune out and destroy all dead and dying branches. Do not import any firewood or mulch from areas known to be infested with EAB.

Fertilize trees with Stemix Plus and use Imicide in the spring as a preventative treatment.

#### Calendar of Events:

UAP 7th Annual Industry Seminar & Tradeshow May 17, 2007 Pearl City, HI

### DISTRIBUTOR'S CORNER

From the Southeast, Chris Shaw of Tree Care Products LLC in Tennessee reports his applicators were able to get a jump on the Hemlock Wooly Adelgid treatments by use of the manometer to determine vascular activity in the Hemlocks. Chris says it took out all the guess work and his success speaks volumes.

Arborcare in New England completed their 3<sup>rd</sup> Advanced Symposium in Sturbridge MA at the end of March with good attendance showings and strong positive feedback from the registrants as well as the present-

Mauget is happy to announce the addition of five new distributors. In the southeast, Golf Ventures, Inc. in Florida and Possum's Landscape and Pest Control in South Carolina have joined the Mauget family along with Hummert International in Missouri.

In the northeast. Essco has become a distributor in the Long Island area and out in the west we are pleased to have Sierra Pacific Turf Supply in Northern California and Northern Nevada.

## The History of Arbor Day

J. Sterling Morton



The idea for Arbor Day originally came from Nebraska. A visit to Nebraska today wouldn't disclose that the state was once a treeless plain. Yet it was the lack of trees there that led to the founding of Arbor Day in the 1800s. Among pioneers moving into the Nebraska Territory in 1854 was J. Sterling Morton from Detroit. He and his wife were lovers of nature, and the home they established in Nebraska was quickly planted with trees, shrubs and flowers.

His fellow pioneers missed their trees as well. But, more importantly, trees were needed as windbreaks to keep soil in place, for fuel and building materials, and for shade from the hot sun. Morton encouraged tree planting by individuals as well as civic organizations and groups. His prominence in the area increased and he became secretary of the Nebraska Territory, which provided another opportunity to stress the value of trees.

On January 4, 1872, Morton first proposed a tree-planting holiday to be called "Arbor Day". The date was set for April 10, 1872. Prizes were offered to counties and individuals for properly planting the largest number of trees on that day. It was estimated that more than one million trees were planted in Nebraska on the first Arbor Day.

Today the most common date for the state observances is the last Friday in April and several U.S. presidents have proclaimed a national Arbor Day on that date. But a number of state Arbor Days are at other times to coincide with the best tree planting weather, from January and February in the south to May in the far north.

Source: The National Arbor Day Foundation

### Tradeshow News

The trade show season brought us unparalleled interest in our products and a host of new customer training has been taking place. ArborFos, Abacide2 & Tebuject16 are all being ordered in record quantities.

Happy Arbor Day! April 27, 2007 From Mauget

## Ask Ann: By Ann Hope

Q. How do I calculate dosages for Mauget Products?

A. First, be sure to always check the label - the label is the law! For most of Mauget products you measure the tree at chest height by diameter and divide by two. Put the capsules at the base of the tree spaced out about every six inches. The buttress roots are the best place to inject the tree. The uptake is usually the quickest and the wounding response is the best. If you are concerned about the uptake, you can always use your manometer to measure the internal pressure in the tree to ensure the fastest uptake.

Ann Hope is Mauget's Technical Support Representative for Southern California. Please email any questions to Ann at: ann@mauget.com

### RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

These are busy times for Mauget Research and Development. Many new opportunities worthy of exploration have presented themselves. The following is a representation of what we are investigating:

- Armillaria: In last years study, Arborfos treatments showed significant promise as a suppressive and therapeutic agent in the control of this disease. Studies are continuing this year.
- Fire Blight: We are currently investigating 5 different treatments for the control of this disease.
- Anthracnose: A 2 year study has demonstrated that both Arborfos and Tebuject 16 treatments showed significant control of this disease. This year we will continue studying this disease using new material.
- Dutch elm disease: In last year's study, trees treated with Tebuject 16 at 20 ml rates demonstrated good protection with 100% of the treated tree healthy, and 70% of the check trees healthy. This study will continue this year investigating high rates of other materials as well.
- Fertilizers: We are currently investigating new formulations in comparison with our existing Stemix Plus and Inject-A-Min lines.
- New Pesticides: Currently we have 2 trials investigating new insecticides with others being lined up.
- New Combination Products: We currently have 10 studies testing different combinations and rates of insecticides and funcicides.
- Plant Growth Regulators: We currently are running 5 studies testing PGR formulations and rates to control fruiting in Liquid ambers.
- Other Injection Systems: We are developing / investigating new injection technologies with field studies in process.

It is easy to see that the opportunities for micro injection technology are ever expanding, and Mauget strives to bring these new applications to the professional.

#### **BREAKING NEWS**

USDA trial data shows strong concerns over hi pressure damage from the "fast" injection systems. Excerpts of this report will appear on our website shortly.

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Please contact Mary Peters— Newsletter Editor (mary@mauget.com) with suggestions or topics you would like to see in future issues

The Distributor's Feeder Tube is a quarterly newsletter published by the J.J. Mauget Co. It's goal is to provide information to our distributorship in what is new and what is "news" with Mauget and the tree care industry.