



# Hurricane Helene Emergency Movement of Hay From Areas Under Quarantine for Imported Fire Ant

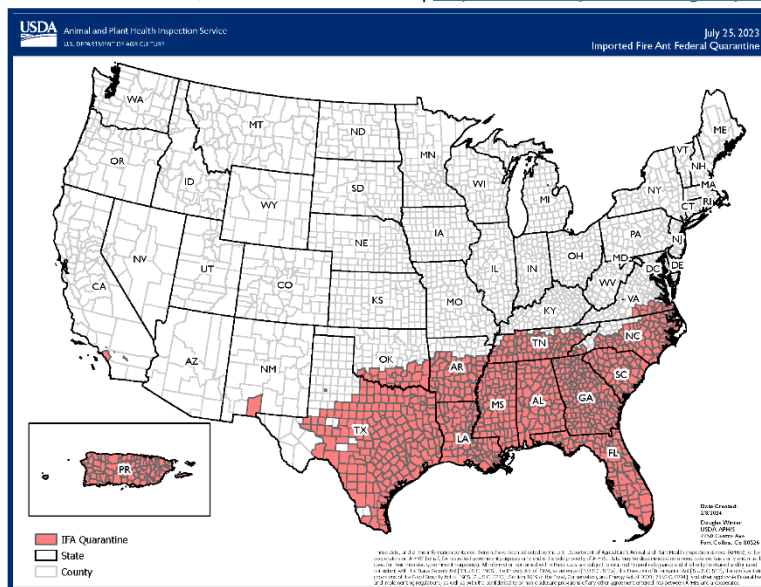
The imported fire ant (*Solenopsis invicta*; IFA) is a federally regulated invasive species that is a threat to agriculture and poses a health concern to humans, livestock and wildlife due to its painful sting and venom. IFA are notorious hitchhikers that can move in bales of hay and straw that have been stored on the ground.

At present 79 counties in North Carolina are fully or partially quarantined for imported fire ant. Unfortunately, the areas hardest hit by Hurricane Helene are the counties in the state where IFA has not yet established. NCDA&CS – Plant Industry Division has the utmost sympathy for the communities devastated by the storm and recognizes the dire need for hay during this critical response phase. On-site IFA hay inspections by NCDA&CS staff in western North Carolina are not logistically feasible and we are sensitive to the emergency need for hay to reach its destination quickly. Many agencies, individuals and volunteer groups are working diligently to ensure livestock have the hay they need.

During the current emergency response phase, below are management practices for hay distribution sites that will reduce the risk of moving IFA in hay bales.

1. Whenever possible, have the hay inspected by your state department of agriculture before it is loaded in a quarantine area (see maps). NCDA&CS Plant Industry Division staff will prioritize these inspections when contacted. (See contact list on the back). Joy Goforth (919) 707-3753 can connect shippers with out of state inspection agencies.
2. Use a bait to treat hay storage areas to prevent establishment at distribution locations.
3. Connect hay recipients with Extension for treatment recommendations should they suspect they have transported IFA to their farm and ask them to follow up with NCDA&CS Plant Industry Division.
4. If the shipment originates in a quarantined area and will not exit or pass through a non-regulated area, no inspection is required.

Federal Imported Fire Ant Quarantine, USDA-APHIS-PPQ | <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant-pests-diseases/ifa>



North Carolina Department of Agriculture & Consumer Services | Steve Troxler, Commissioner of Agriculture  
Plant Industry Division—Plant Protection Section | Dr. Bill Foote, Plant Industry Division Director

# North Carolina Imported Fire Ant Quarantine & NCDA&CS-PID Plant Pest Specialist Areas

<https://www.ncagr.gov/divisions/plant-industry/plant-protection/entomological-insect-services/plant-industry-imported-fire-ant>

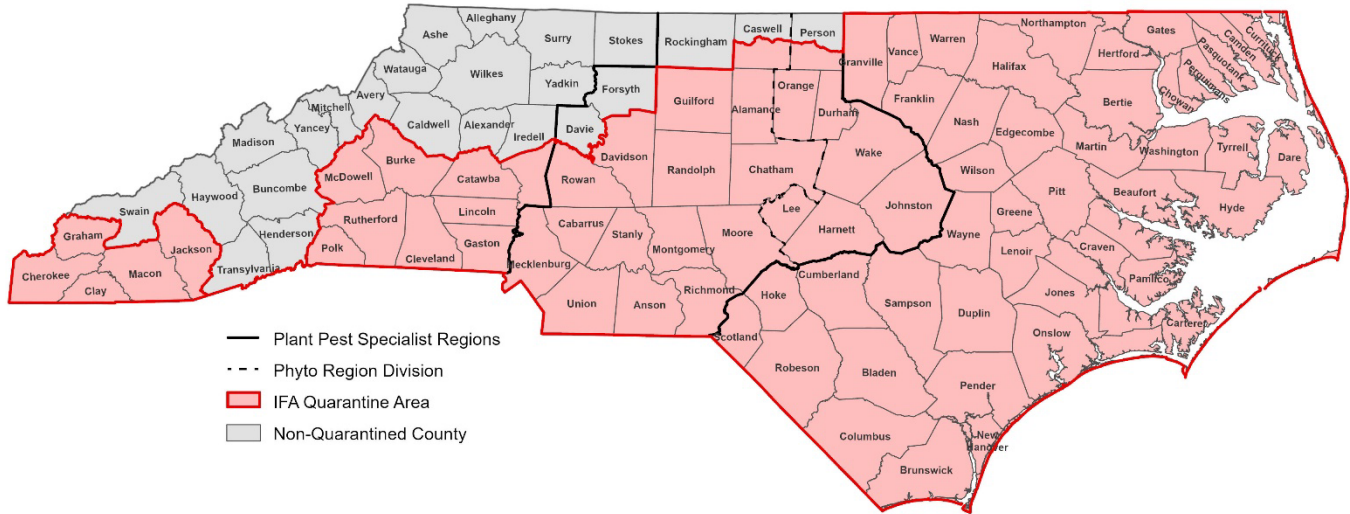
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## Specialists' Names, Contact Information and Assigned Regions

<b>Region 1:</b>	Bertie, Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Gates, Hertford, Hyde, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell, Washington	<a href="#">Joe Davenport</a>	(919) 608-0635
<b>Region 2:</b>	Nash, Wilson	<a href="#">Bonnie Faulkner</a>	(252) 521-3180
<b>Region 3:</b>	Edgecombe, Green, Lenoir, Martin, Pitt	VACANT	(252) 521-3180
<b>Region 4:</b>	Franklin, Granville, Halifax, Northampton, Vance, Warren	<a href="#">Derreck Long</a>	(252) 567-1247
<b>Region 5:</b>	Beaufort, Carteret, Craven, Jones, Onslow, Pamlico	<a href="#">Juliet Whitehurst</a>	(919)707-3730
<b>Region 6:</b>	Duplin, New Hanover, Pender, Sampson, Wayne	<a href="#">Jonathan Bass</a>	(919) 270-4910
<b>Region 7:</b>	Durham, Orange, Person, Wake	<a href="#">April Bauder</a>	(919) 777-3251
<b>Region 8:</b>	Chatham, Harnett, Johnston, Lee	<a href="#">Cassandra Dolce</a>	(919) 909-0605
<b>Region 9:</b>	Bladen, Brunswick, Columbus, Cumberland, Hoke, Robeson, Scotland	<a href="#">Chris Carter</a>	(919) 218-8654
<b>Region 10:</b>	Alamance, Caswell, Forsyth, Guilford, Randolph, Rockingham	<a href="#">April Bauder</a>	(919) 777-3251
<b>Region 11:</b>	Cabarrus, Davie, Davidson, Mecklenburg, Rowan	<a href="#">Daniel Brewer</a>	(704) 249-5940
<b>Region 12:</b>	Alleghany, Iredell, Stokes, Surry, Wilkes, Yadkin	<a href="#">Ginger Hemmings</a>	(336) 314-9334
<b>Region 13:</b>	Anson, Montgomery, Moore, Richmond, Stanly, Union	<a href="#">Samuel Harris</a>	(919) 604-3896
<b>Region 14:</b>	Burke, Catawba, Cleveland, Lincoln, Gaston, Alexander	<a href="#">John Eaton</a>	(919) 448-7766
<b>Region 15:</b>	Ashe, Caldwell, Watauga	<a href="#">Chad Taylor</a>	(336) 466-0478
<b>Region 16:</b>	Avery, Haywood, Madison, Mitchell, McDowell, Yancey	<a href="#">Tim Hartley</a>	(828) 260-0588
<b>Region 17:</b>	Buncombe, Henderson, Polk, Transylvania, Rutherford	<a href="#">Sue Dial</a>	(828) 577-0915
<b>Region 18:</b>	Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, Swain	<a href="#">Ryan Holquist</a>	(828) 421-5445

Personnel in Regions 12-18 have also been impacted by Hurricane Helene and may not be able to respond to messages. Please contact our main office if you cannot reach them: (919) 707-3730