EHS 12/08/2021 QUINN KNIGHT

The Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection is encouraging residents to buy their seasonal decor locally to combat the invasive pest elongate hemlock scale, or EHS.

EHS poses a significant threat to Wisconsin’s Christmas trees, and has been detected in several U.S. states, according to the department. Kevin Hoffman is a public information officer for the DATCP. He says EHS damages trees by feeding on the undersides of their needles, which saps them of their nutrients.

Hoffman says preventing the pest from spreading is important because of how difficult and expensive EHS is to control with pesticides.

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