

This is the tree-eating emerald ash borer, but the tiger beetle looks very similar, experts say.

## Ash borer has harmless look-alike

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Is it an emerald ash borer or a six-spotted tiger beetle?

Twice last week, Stouffville resident Susan Palmer saw an "emerald-green sparkly bug" on her property in the Tenth Line and Main Street area.

She didn't think much about it, that is, until she read a story from the Stouffville Sun-Tribune and yorkregion.com Saturday about traps being placed throughout southern York Region, including Whitchurch-Stouffville, to help determine the number of ash trees affected by the emerald ash borer.

"I had a very good look at it," Ms Palmer said, noting she is quite sure it is an emerald ash borer. "It is a very pretty bug. But even though it's nice, I don't want it there."

Ms Palmer has called in a tree specialist, who will look at a tree in her yard, she believes is ash.

"Things always migrate," she said.

James Lane, area forester for York Region, said there are no confirmed cases of emerald ash borer within Whitchurch-Stouffville and Ms Palmer may actually have seen a six-spotted tiger beetle, which is also about the size of your fingernail and often mistaken for the emerald ash borer. But unlike the borer, the beetle is harmless.

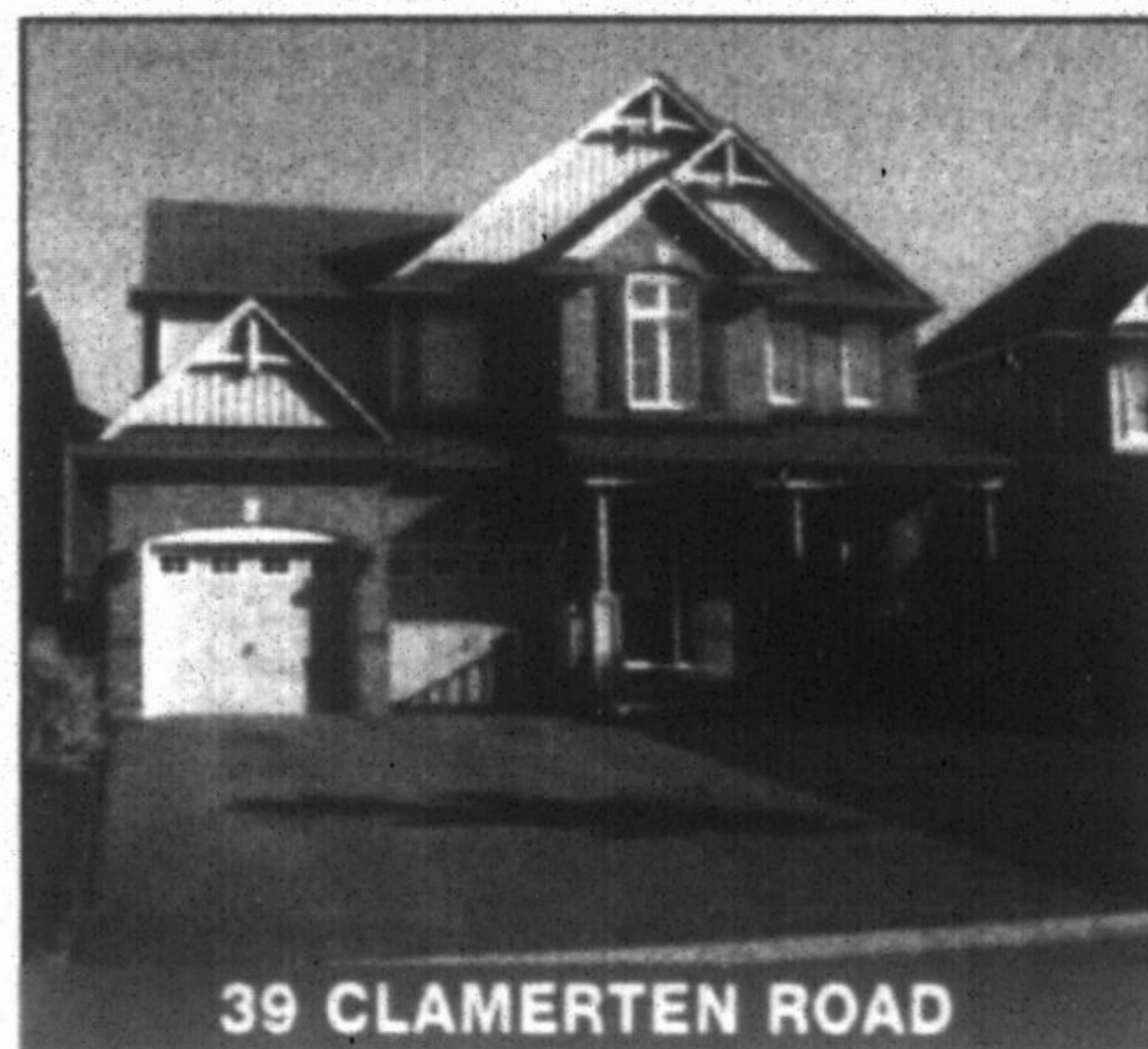
Cases of emerald ash borer have been confirmed in Markham and Richmond Hill.

To help determine the number of trees in York Region affected by the emerald ash borer, about 250 insect traps are being placed in area ash trees by the Region of York.

About 10 to 15 of the pheromone traps are being hung four to five metres above ground within a 16-square-kilometre area of Whitchurch-Stouffville, bounded by Bethesda Road, Nineteenth Avenue, Hwy. 404 and Kennedy Road.

For more information, go to [www.inspection.gc.ca/pests](http://www.inspection.gc.ca/pests), [www.york.ca](http://www.york.ca) or [www.bioforest.ca](http://www.bioforest.ca)

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