

# Southern Region Forest Health Update

## Wisconsin DNR, Forest Health Protection Unit

November 16th, 2012 Vol. 9 No. 6

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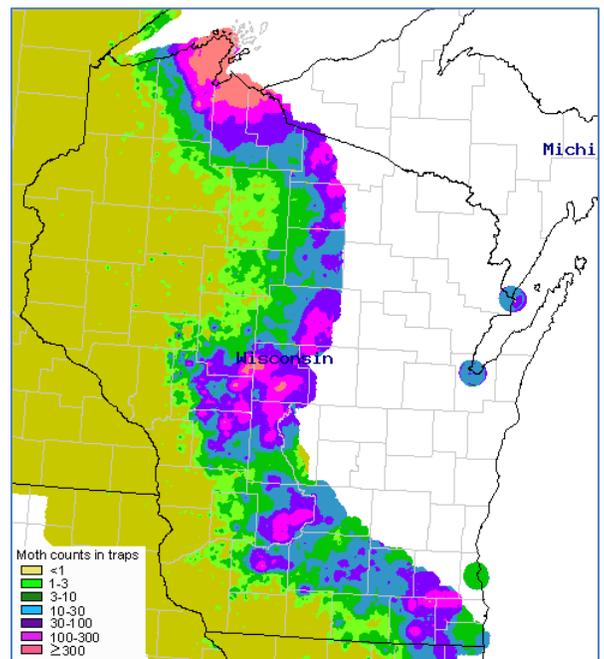
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Articles in this newsletter were written by Mark Guthmiller, Regional Forest Health Specialist, unless otherwise noted.

### Gypsy Moth – Bill McNee

The Wisconsin Dept. of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) has released its final data from the 2012 gypsy moth trapping project. DATCP caught 174,000 moths this year, compared to 234,000 moths in 2011 (note: the number of traps changes annually). The highest numbers of moths were caught in these counties: Bayfield (46,000 moths), Ashland (26,000), Jackson (16,000), Wood (11,000) and Clark (10,000). The counties with the highest number of moths per trap were: Ashland (122 moths per trap), Wood (120), Iron (95) and Bayfield (73). Far northern Wisconsin is the area of the state where gypsy moth has spread fastest over the last 5 years.

Egg mass surveys can now be done in order to predict gypsy moth populations in 2013. For more information on how to do egg mass surveys, visit [www.gypsymoth.wi.gov](http://www.gypsymoth.wi.gov). Information on oiling or removing egg masses is also available at this website.



Map of 2012 gypsy moth trap catches in the DATCP trapping program. Areas in white are not trapped. Map produced by the Gypsy Moth Slow-The-Spread Project.

**Applications to the 2012-13 DNR gypsy moth suppression program are due by Friday, December 7 of this year.**

Applications and a list of local gypsy moth contacts are available at [www.gypsymoth.wi.gov](http://www.gypsymoth.wi.gov).

If you decide to participate in the suppression program to spray in 2013, please let Mark Guthmiller or Bill McNee know in advance of the December deadline ([mark.guthmiller@wisconsin.gov](mailto:mark.guthmiller@wisconsin.gov) or [bill.mcnee@wisconsin.gov](mailto:bill.mcnee@wisconsin.gov)). If you decide to do privately-organized spraying, a list of for-hire aerial applicators is available at the above website. The December 7 deadline does not apply to privately-organized spraying.

If an area is thinking of participating in the DNR suppression program to spray in 2013, oil the masses or wait until this December to remove them so that surveyors can determine if an area should be sprayed.



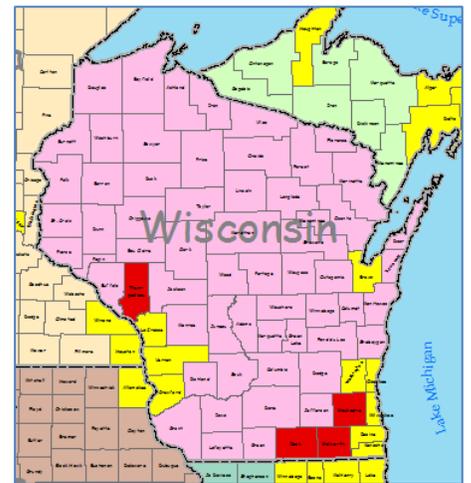
Gypsy moth egg masses. Photo by Bill McNee.

**Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) – Bill McNee**

An EAB-infested tree was found in the City of La Crosse in early November. The county had its first EAB detection near the city in 2011, about 3 miles from this recent find. More information can be found at: <http://datcp.wi.gov/news/?Id=689>. EAB has been found in 13 of Wisconsin’s 72 counties.

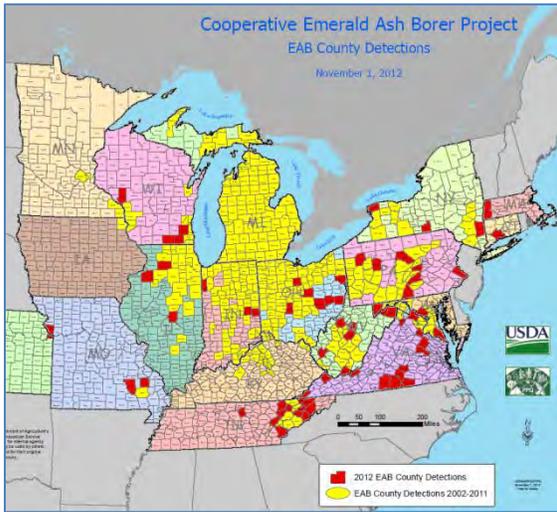
Recently there have been several new or updated EAB documents that may be useful to our Pest Update readers:

- UW Extension has updated its EAB insecticide guide for homeowners to add several new pesticides: <http://hort.uwex.edu/articles/homeowner-guide-emerald-ash-borer-insecticide-treatments>.
- The Wisconsin Dept. of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) has released an updated list of Wisconsin communities where EAB has been detected: [http://datcpservices.wisconsin.gov/eab/articleassets/EAB\\_Infested\\_Wisconsin\\_Communities.pdf](http://datcpservices.wisconsin.gov/eab/articleassets/EAB_Infested_Wisconsin_Communities.pdf).
- A simple to use EAB decision guide for homeowners has been produced by Purdue University in Indiana: [http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/EAB/pdf/NABB\\_DecisionGuide.pdf](http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/EAB/pdf/NABB_DecisionGuide.pdf).
- Iowa State University Extension has produced a guide to ash tree problems, including EAB: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/pme/Publications/EAB/FAQSUL21AshTrees.pdf>.

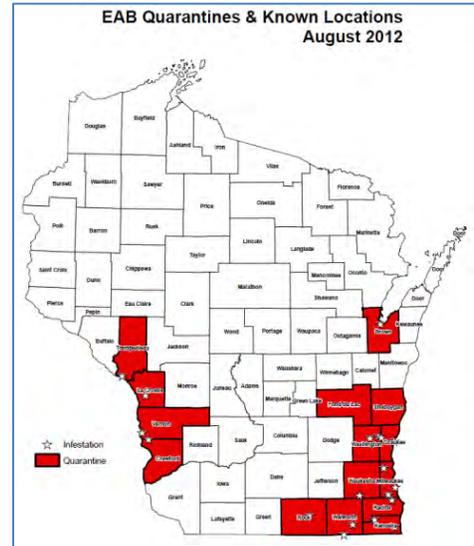


Counties in red had first EAB detections in 2012.

So far in 2012 there have been 68 new county detections nationwide, 12 counties more than were found in all of 2011.



Counties in red had first EAB detections in 2012. Counties in yellow had first EAB detections in 2011 or earlier. Map is from USDA APHIS.



Counties currently quarantined for EAB are shown in red.

EAB detected in Houghton, MI:

<http://www.detroitnews.com/article/20121114/METRO/211140380/1361/Tree-killing-emerald-ash-borer-found-in-Houghton>

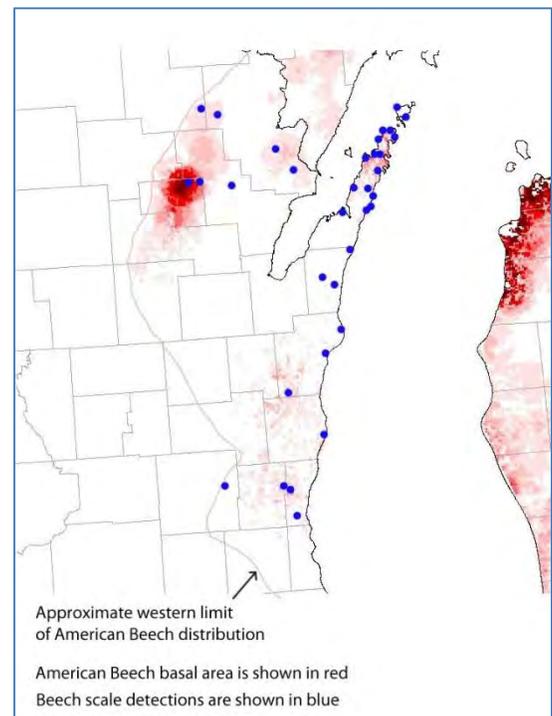
Sign up for automatic EAB news updates at: [http://datcp.wi.gov/Gov\\_Delivery/EAB/index.aspx](http://datcp.wi.gov/Gov_Delivery/EAB/index.aspx).

Suspicious beetles or symptomatic trees should be reported to the EAB hotline, 1-800-462-2803, or emailed to: [DATCPEmeraldAshBorer@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DATCPEmeraldAshBorer@wisconsin.gov).

### Beech Bark Disease – Bill McNee

Beech scale surveys done in 2012 have found that beech scale, the insect associated with beech bark disease, is now present throughout most of the range of American Beech in Wisconsin. Current year surveys were done by staff from UW-Stevens Point and Menominee Tribal Enterprises. First detections were made in Dodge, Forest and Menominee Counties.

Map of beech scale detections (blue dots) and beech abundance (shaded red). Map by Bill McNee.



Foresters finding high populations of beech scale (white wool on beech trees, as shown in the photo) are asked to report it to one of the DNR forest health staff. At present, high populations of beech scale and the disease have only been found in Door County.



White wool of beech scale. Photo by Bill McNee.

More information about beech scale, beech bark disease and forest management can be found online at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/foresthealth/beechnbarkdisease.html>.

In general,

- Foresters should consider beech vigor and bark texture in the order of removal when planning harvest activities. Typically, this would mean that beech with low vigor and/or rough bark would be harvested. Once moderate or high scale populations are seen in the stand, harvesting activities may be appropriate.
- Do not remove all of the beech, because some trees are resistant to the disease and will continue to provide wildlife and timber benefits. Resistant trees cannot be identified until they survive the first beech bark disease wave.
- In campgrounds and other areas where diseased trees will be a hazard to people and structures, remove the beech trees once they are moderately infested with the scale. Diseased trees are a safety hazard because they can snap in high winds.
- Encourage the growth of non-ash species in harvest openings because of the threat of emerald ash borer.

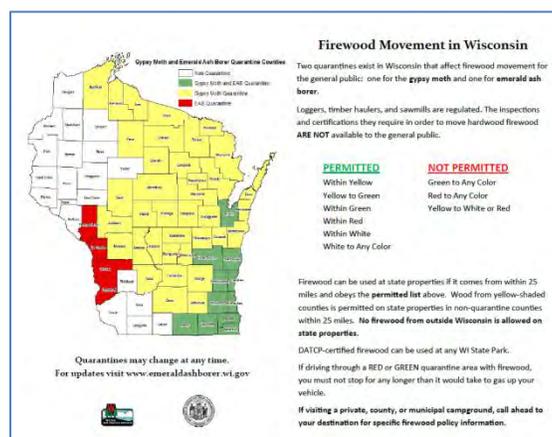
## Firewood

### Deer Camp and Firewood – Bill McNee

Hunters heading out to deer camp are encouraged to buy firewood where they are hunting, or to purchase certified wood. This is important so that hunters do not spread pests such as emerald ash borer (EAB) or gypsy moth into an uninfested area. It is also illegal to move firewood out of areas that are quarantined for either of those insect pests.

Fifty-one counties in Wisconsin are quarantined for one or both pests. A map showing the quarantined counties is available online at:

[http://datcpservices.wisconsin.gov/eab/articleassets/Firewood\\_Movement\\_in\\_Wisconsin.pdf](http://datcpservices.wisconsin.gov/eab/articleassets/Firewood_Movement_in_Wisconsin.pdf). Although firewood may be moved within a quarantine area, it is best to buy certified wood or buy it where you are camping.



Firewood movement prohibitions (note that the colored words “permitted” and “not permitted” are not reflecting the colors on the map. You have to read the color codes underneath those words.)

## Firewood tips:

- Gather or buy your firewood at your destination.
- Use all the firewood you obtain and don't take any home with you.
- Consider buying certified firewood. A list is available at: <http://datcp.wi.gov/uploads/Plants/pdf/CertifiedFirewoodDealers.pdf>.
- If camping on DNR-managed land, firewood cannot come from more than 25 miles away unless it is certified.

Additional information about EAB and gypsy moth can be found online at [www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov](http://www.emeraldashborer.wi.gov) or at [www.gypsymoth.wi.gov](http://www.gypsymoth.wi.gov).

**Caution:** Moving wood that is “knowingly infested with EAB”, even within a quarantine, could be a violation of the Invasive Species Rule, NR40. Best management practices (BMP's) are used to address this rule. Watch for more information on BMP's related to EAB in the near future.

For more information on NR40 and listed species visit: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives/classification.html>  
For more information on invasive species BMP's: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives/bmp.html>

Current BMP's for emerald ash borer infested logs can be found at: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/Invasives/documents/MovingAshLogsBMPs.pdf>

## Insects Found in Firewood:

This is the time of year many people may be out cutting firewood for home heating use and may observe many kinds of insects while splitting wood or after storing wood in a warm place. Each species of wood has many different kinds of insects that might be found under the bark or deeper inside the wood. Some of these insects (or diseases) could become pests of your living trees. However there are likely many insects that could be found in firewood and some may be a nuisance or just a curiosity. While it takes specialists to identify many of the insects, especially the immature or larval stages, here are some general resources for identifying types of insects you might find in firewood:

<http://www.entomology.wisc.edu/diaglab/3-6-08Updates/Firewood.pdf>

<http://learningstore.uwex.edu/assets/pdfs/A3093.pdf>

<http://www.entomology.wisc.edu/insectid/wood-attk.php>

<http://extension.entm.purdue.edu/publications/E-67.pdf>

<http://www.ca.uky.edu/entomology/entfacts/ef626.asp>

<http://www.ca.uky.edu/entomology/entfacts/images/ef017007a.jpg>

<http://www.pestcontrolsydney.com.au/insects/Firewood%20Insects,%20HYG-2065-96.htm>

<http://cnr.ncsu.edu/woodworkshops/documents/FirewoodInsects.pdf>



## Harvesting Firewood From Your Woods:

Cutting firewood has been a time honored tradition and necessity. A recent publication by the UW Extension and WI DNR recently came out that goes into the details of harvesting firewood including information on tree and forest biology, planning a harvest, and details of processing a tree into firewood. Who knew it could be so complex?! There is some great information in this publication so take a look:

[http://intranet.dnr.state.wi.us/int/land/forestry/NL2007/img12/118\\_90HarvestingFirewood.pdf](http://intranet.dnr.state.wi.us/int/land/forestry/NL2007/img12/118_90HarvestingFirewood.pdf)

## Firewood Pile Photo Contest:

After reading the brochure listed above, including the topic about designs for a well stacked firewood pile, I thought it fitting to put out a challenge for the most “creative” firewood pile. Readers, if you would like to participate please submit an electronic picture of your favorite firewood pile. The pile does not have to be yours but the pictures must be your original and not taken from a web site. I will put together a panel of judges, and as your prize, I will share the top 3 pictures in an upcoming newsletter.

Send your picture to

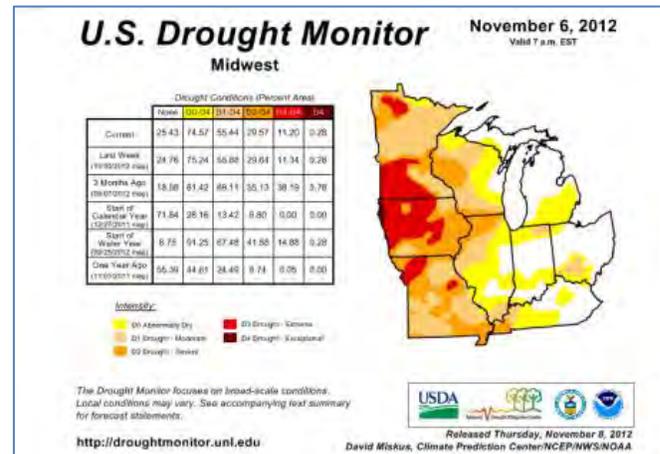
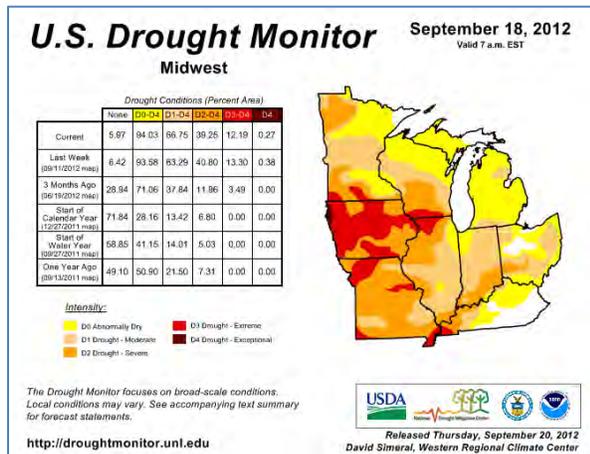
[Mark.Guthmiller@wisconsin.gov](mailto:Mark.Guthmiller@wisconsin.gov) by December 21<sup>st</sup>.



## Drought – To Tap or Not To Tap

### Current Status and Outlook

Drought conditions continued to improve in southern WI going into fall. Southern Wisconsin received enough precipitation to move from extreme and severe to moderate categories. While I am anticipating some insect and disease issues to increase over the next few years from this season’s drought, continued timely moisture will reduce susceptibility of trees to such pests.



September vs. November Drought Monitoring Status

[http://www.droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DM\\_midwest.htm](http://www.droughtmonitor.unl.edu/DM_midwest.htm)

## To Tap or Not To Tap Maples Next Spring?

I received a great question from a landowner wondering if they should avoid tapping maples next year due to the stress the trees were under from this season’s drought. While we routinely talk about the concept of stacking of various stressors and risk for tree mortality, I had no idea what level of stress tapping a maple tree might create. I contacted Dr. Tim Perkins, research professor and director with the Proctor Maple Research Center at the University of Vermont. Dr. Perkins responded that tapping removes only a small percentage of starch reserves annually, at around 1-3%, which was encouraging news. Where we had early browning of

maples in the Baraboo hills we also did not observe a re-flush of foliage by those maples suggesting preservation of starch reserves. This is also encouraging news, at least for the larger trees. One should however take into account their individual situation such as local precipitation levels, recent stand history of pests, and general condition of their sugar bush before deciding to tap or not. Thanks to Dr. Perkins for this timely information. Here is his full reply:



Sugar maple showing leaf browning in early August

Unfortunately, there aren't any real good answers. Drought will certainly impact the ability of trees to photosynthesize, and can therefore reduce carbohydrate reserves.

Whether this has any significant short-term (next sugaring season) or long-term (mortality) impact depends upon a number of factors that vary tremendously from place to place. In general, if the trees were in good health before the drought (they are not affected by other short-term severe or moderate chronic stresses), they should weather a moderate drought without too much trouble. However if the drought is very extreme or prolonged, and there are other stresses involved, you can expect some dieback and mortality. Mortality probably won't be evident immediately (unless the drought is extraordinarily severe), but typically will take 3-5 years to manifest itself.

As far as tapping goes....again, it depends. Did the trees defoliate and then re-flush a new set of leaves? When did this occur? Reforming a new canopy can be quite demanding on the carbohydrate reserves of trees. If they re-flushed early, and moisture was adequate, they may have made enough sugar to be OK. If they re-flushed late, they may not have captured enough energy to offset the investment in a second set of leaves.

Trees do however typically have fairly substantial carbon reserves (multi-year). As long as the trees are not small, they can draw upon these reserves to sustain them for a period of several years. Tapping removes only a very small part of this reserve (on the order of 1-3%), so it is unlikely it will play a major role in whether or not the tree lives or dies. The decision of whether to tap or not depends upon how important maple syrup production is to the livelihood of the producer, and the degree to which the trees were stressed.

Maple leaves will make sugars all summer long as long as the conditions are conducive (good moisture, adequate sun). They don't stop at any time of year until they senesce in the fall and start to change color.

Additional information on drought and maples from Ontario:

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/hort/mapledry.htm>

## Peach Bark Beetle on Black Cherry

Peach bark beetle was first observed attacking black cherry in November of 2000 here in Wisconsin. The buildup of peach bark beetle at the time was thought likely due to stress caused to the trees from excessive moisture and saturated soils. The drought conditions of this season may also very likely have allowed for buildup of peach bark beetle and folks should be on the watch. I happened to notice a tree in Ozaukee County that had similar symptoms which made me think an update would be good. I contacted Columbia County forester, Jim Bennett, to get his input since he has dealt the most with this insect over the last decade.

Here is a Q. and A. with Jim regarding peach bark beetle on black cherry:

Did you see much peach bark beetle activity this year in Columbia Co? **Yes, on several sites and always on tree(s) that has been previously stressed (not always apparent – but close examination there is a hint of something not quite right) with bark damage or black knot –something.**

Have you attributed any tree health, dieback, or mortality to this beetle? **In my opinion, when you see the amber-colored pitch oozing out, the tree or group of trees always looks or show signs of stress – they seem sickly, but are alive. But not for long - though it may take some time (a season or two) and looking worse with the passing of time. I keep an eye out on nice saw-logs to avoid losing grade by the introduction of other secondary attacks like longhorn beetles.**

Have you heard of any degrade in timber value from this beetle? **My first time with this critter, I didn't know if they bored into sap or heartwood. We logged off or should I say, we captured mortality on saw log cherry that had numerous attacks with pitch collecting at the entry hole. I took the time to set up a small experiment with the landowner's permission by allowing several cherry trees with little or no attacks to remain and see what would happen after the harvest was complete. Well, they were attacked in high numbers and later perished.**

In the process of cutting into lumber, the damaged inner bark area will come off as 'jacket-wood' or slab wood. **All is good if you keep an eye on it.**

For more information on peach bark beetle on black cherry:  
<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestHealth/documents/BlackCherryPest2.pdf>

The state of New York has reported peach bark beetle as a recurring pest which seemed to follow outbreaks of cherry scalloped shell moth. Here is more information by Dr. Douglas Allen, SUNY College of Environmental Sciences and Forestry, Syracuse, NY. [http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands\\_forests\\_pdf/peachbb.pdf](http://www.dec.ny.gov/docs/lands_forests_pdf/peachbb.pdf)

### Walnut Branch Insect Rearing

As mentioned in the June edition of this newsletter, we set up rearing containers to see if we could rear out woodborers from walnut. In 2011, we commonly saw galleries of buprestid woodborers while surveying for walnut twig beetle. We did successfully rear out beetles from 5 of 6 sites sampled. Branch samples were divided into containers as either "recent dead dry" or "live green" wood. All beetle emergence came from "recent dead dry" wood and not "green live" samples suggesting these beetles are likely just secondary pests utilizing stressed trees. We did have some



Peach bark beetle attack causing resin pitching on black cherry



Rearing containers used for walnut branch sampling

issues with mold from the “green live” branch samples in the plastic rearing containers. However, most emergence occurred relatively early after putting samples in the containers that I don’t think mold would have attributed much to any failed emergence from the “green live” branch material. Three species of *Agrilus* beetles were reared and identified by West Central forest pest specialist, Mike Hillstrom, as *Agrilus arcuatus*, the hickory spiral borer, *Agrilus transimpressus* (no common name) and *Agrilus cliftoni* (no common name), all of which have previously been listed on walnut apparently. Thanks to Mike for his assistance with identification.



*Agrilus transimpressus*, one of three *Agrilus* species reared from walnut.  
Photo by: Mike Hillstrom, WI DNR

## Walnut Twig Beetle Survey

A network of traps baited with a pheromone lure, were set up in southern and west central Wisconsin this season. All collected samples have been processed and the preliminary data indicate no “walnut twig beetles” were caught in traps placed by WI DNR forestry. Walnut twig beetle is associated with the insect/disease complex known as “thousand cankers disease”. To date, thousand cankers disease has not been confirmed in Wisconsin. For more information on thousand cankers disease:

[http://na.fs.fed.us/pubs/palerts/cankers\\_disease/thousand\\_cankers\\_disease\\_print\\_res.pdf](http://na.fs.fed.us/pubs/palerts/cankers_disease/thousand_cankers_disease_print_res.pdf)

## Walnut Phytoplasma

Over the last two years we have had walnut foliage tested from a few select areas for phytoplasma’s. Phytoplasma’s are somewhat like bacteria only without a cell wall, and the diseases they cause are often referred to



Walnut tree showing epicormic sprouts with chlorotic and stunted foliage.

as “yellows” such as the more common ash yellows. Ash yellows functions as a slow developing disease within a tree over a number

of years. There can be a number of symptoms exhibited or in some cases no symptoms, for this disease. In the case of black walnut, the symptoms observed that prompted testing, included epicormic branching on the trunk often with stunted and yellow foliage. Testing results have been variable but based on test results from the testing company, Agdia, there have been three black walnut sites and one butternut tree confirmed with phytoplasma. What role, if any, this phytoplasma might be playing in tree health of walnut is not known.



Pheromone baited funnel trap used for walnut twig beetle surveys

## Phomopsis Canker of Spruce

The phone rings and I answer it. It's a landowner, "say what's going on with my spruce tree? It's yellow and it's losing a lot of needles". I cringe. "No, not another spruce call" I mutter under my breath. I don't know if I am alone in this field, but for some reason spruce is a tree species I least enjoy (note I didn't say dislike) trouble shooting problems on. Maybe it is because of nebulous issues such as SNEED (sudden needle drop) or the fungus *stigmata* (uncertain what role in disease it might be playing). Maybe it is because of the more identifiable, and as of late, frequent calls regarding *rhizosphaera* needle cast. Anyway..

Late this season a sample came in from eastern WI with a number of issues including what I also was able to identify as "phomopsis" on the needles. While I suspect a combination of other issues, including *rhizosphaera* needle cast, were the main problem I looked into phomopsis on spruce. I did a web search on "phomopsis and spruce" only to find an article titled "Michigan awash with Phomopsis cankers on spruce trees and seedlings". The article was written by Dr. Dennis Fulbright and group at Michigan State University Extension. As Dr. Fulbright discusses, there are probably a number of things going on with the spruce. While my observations were made on needles, here is one more issue to watch for.

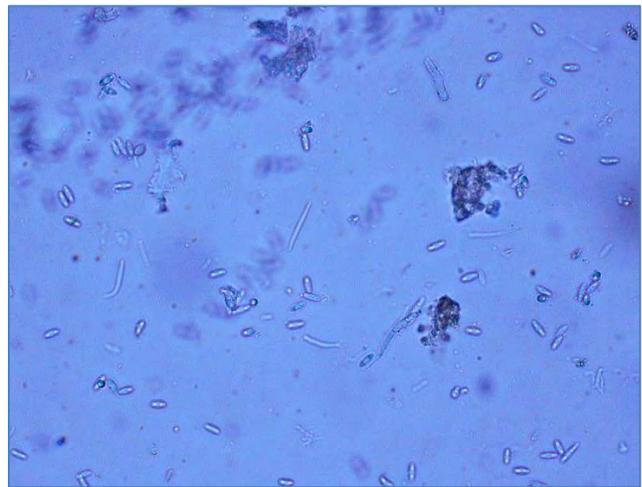
For more information on phomopsis canker in Michigan:

[http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/michigan\\_awash\\_with\\_phomopsis\\_cankers\\_on\\_spruce\\_trees\\_and\\_seedlings](http://msue.anr.msu.edu/news/michigan_awash_with_phomopsis_cankers_on_spruce_trees_and_seedlings)

<http://web2.msue.msu.edu/bulletins/Bulletin/PDF/E2417.pdf>



Conidial (spore producing) tendrils emerging from infected needle.



Two spore types (alpha-short, oval & beta-long with curved ends) indicative of phomopsis.

## Buckthorn and Honeysuckle- Bernie Williams

While it's definitely getting cooler outside and the days darker you might be thinking it's time to face the facts and put down your spade, your shovel and hoe and settle in with the milk and cookies and watch those thighs grow... but wait! Did you know this time of year is the best time to treat some of Wisconsin's most pervasive invasive species? That's right; Buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica-frangula*) and Honeysuckle (*Lonicera spp.*) are the most vulnerable in autumn and winter.

### Buckthorn

These large bushes or small trees were introduced from Europe back in the 1840's for hedges and animal forage. With no natural enemies, they spread rapidly. They form large stands of bushes that green up sooner and stay green longer than native plants, so they choke them out. So while buckthorn is now illegal to buy in

Wisconsin, it was sold here long before anyone realized it was an aggressive invader. Though if you live in southern Wisconsin you are probably well acquainted with Buckthorn the preverbal thorn in your side. Though if not, you can recognize “common buckthorn” by its black berries and grayish bark, and “glossy buckthorn” by its silvery bark and it’s often found in damp areas.



A robin feasting on buckthorn fruit which seeds will later show up elsewhere.

### **Honeysuckle**

Honeysuckle bushes were introduced as garden plants as early as the 1700's though they didn't stay put.

Nowadays, you can see Morrow, Armur, and Tartarian Honeysuckle bushes just about anywhere from wooded lots, city parks, and your neighbor’s yard to the roadsides. It spreads with help from birds and when it gets started in an area it can choke out lower-canopy trees, bushes, and flowers. You can recognize Honeysuckle by their oval leaves, pithy stems and small flowers which range in colors from white, pink, to red.

The great thing about treating invasives now is the weather - sans the heat and bugs! Identification is pretty easy as you’ll find both buckthorn and honeysuckle still have their leaves. While it’s too much to go into control in this article, rule of thumb is a cut stump treatment with an herbicide so the chemical is drawn into the root base. You of course can manually pull and dig, just be aware resprouting frequently will occur. Fortunately we have a great deal of resources available online for chemical and manual control and an army of veteran invasive folk in the trenches who love to reminisce about battling a ferocious honeysuckle or a buckthorn with a rack like you’ve never seen.

For more information:

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/invasives/documents/wi%20inv%20plant%20field%20guide%20web%20version.pdf>

<http://woodlandinfo.org/publications/UWEX/A3893.pdf>

## **Miscellaneous**

### **Click Beetles vs Emerald Ash Borer**

Recently a public works director, whose municipality was using the purple EAB traps to monitor for emerald ash borer, brought in a trap with beetle samples somewhat shaped and slightly metallic green in color. The beetles were identified as a species of “click beetle”. While we routinely see click beetles stuck in the panel traps these were more metallic green than most I have seen. I suspect the species on the trap was the “green click beetle”, *Nitidolimonius resplendens* or a closely related species. To see a picture of this beetle go to:

<http://bugguide.net/node/view/169040/bgimage>

Click beetles are really cool and great gymnasts with the ability to do a fantastic back flip.

For more information on click beetles:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Click\\_beetle](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Click_beetle)

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uH4roWTUMoA>

## A Couple Ash Diseases

### - *Chalara fraxinea*

Britain is reporting a disease of ash, which has caused extensive mortality elsewhere in Europe.

<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/earth/9643287/Woodland-walking-ban-as-ash-disease-takes-hold.html>

### -Perenniporia stem rot: *Perenniporia fraxinophila*

While traveling this fall on a trip to western North Dakota (yes, North Dakota again makes my newsletter), I noticed a decay fungus that was very common on ash. I had not seen this fungus in southern WI so I did some inquiring. I heard back from Joe O'Brian, Forest Pathologist, with the USDA Forest Service and Dr. Jim Walla, Department of Plant Pathology at North Dakota State. Basically this decay fungus is common on ash in the Lake States and very common in the northern plain states. Considering all the ash I have looked at during EAB survey work I am surprised I have not noticed this fungus before.

For more information: [http://wiki.bugwood.org/Archive%3AAsh/Perenniporia\\_Stem\\_Rot](http://wiki.bugwood.org/Archive%3AAsh/Perenniporia_Stem_Rot)



Resupinate (flat) fruiting of *P. fraxinophila* at branch whorl.



Large older perennial bracket conk of *P. fraxinophila*

## Technology

### -Forest Health Protection and Mapping Tools

The USDA forest service has a series of mapping resources folks may find of use. Note that updates to some pest issues may not be most current and you should check our state records for most up-to-date status, especially related to quarantined pests: <http://foresthealth.fs.usda.gov/portal>

**-Purdue Tree Doctor:** A new phone app for tree pest diagnosis is available through the University of Purdue for folks using iOS based technology: [https://mdc.itap.purdue.edu/item.asp?item\\_number=ID-452-APP](https://mdc.itap.purdue.edu/item.asp?item_number=ID-452-APP)

### Best of Arctic Survivalists - *Gynaephora groenlandica*

While out on a site evaluation, Dodge County forester, Randy Stampfl brought up a topic he had recently heard regarding a species of arctic woolly bear caterpillars that were thought to have a 14 year life cycle. I had not heard of this critter and was curious to learn more. So after you are done cutting a cord of firewood and correctly stacking it come back in and read about this amazing moth and you will appreciate your recent

efforts at keeping warm during the winter months. I plan to watch the BBC documentary “Frozen Planet”, which apparently talks about this insect, during a cold winter storm this year.

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gynaephora\\_groenlandica](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gynaephora_groenlandica)

Locally, we have a cousin of this woolly bear caterpillar, the Isabella tiger moth (*Pyrrharctia isabella*). Most of you have likely heard the folklore around the length of the brown band of the caterpillar and the prediction for the coming winter’s weather (The wider the brown band the milder the winter). Here is a short write up from the Farmer’s Almanac on the folklore around woolly bears. I am not certain what is more amazing; the life cycle of arctic woolly bear caterpillar or the ability of Dr. Curran to get his spouse to travel 40 miles just to look at woolly bear caterpillars.

<http://www.almanac.com/content/predicting-winter-weather-woolly-bear-caterpillars>



A local woolly bear caterpillar from last year...how would you rate last winter? Are we all calibrated now?

### **Do trees photosynthesize through bark?**

Now you know what kind of deep discussions go on in the woods. Here is some great scientific trivia to bring up around the Thanksgiving table! The summary statement was particularly interesting.

<http://www.jstor.org/stable/10.2307/2439638>

### **DNR Tree Nursery Order Information**

Are you getting spring fever yet! Start your planning and get your tree orders in for next season.

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/TreePlanting/>

For those folks looking for smaller numbers of seedlings to plant, you may want to try searching on your county land conservation program. A number of county land conservation programs also offer tree sales often in lots of 25.



**SOR Forest Health Assistance**  
**Wisconsin DNR, Forest Health Protection Unit**  
**September 2011 to September 2012 (or until further notice)**

**Contacts for DNR staff, municipal foresters, and forestry cooperators**

**For general forest health and municipal level urban forest health issues**

Mark Guthmiller (Old SOR region: SCR & SER combined) 608-275-3223

**For gypsy moth**

Mark Guthmiller (Old SCR Team area) 608-275-3223

Bill McNee (Old SER Team area) 920-303-5421

Andrea Diss-Torrance (Statewide issues) 608-264-9247

**For emerald ash borer**

Mark Guthmiller (Old SCR Team area) 608-275-3223

Bill McNee (Old SER Team area) 920-662-5430

**For beech bark disease/beech scale**

Mark Guthmiller (Old SCR Team areas) 608-275-3223

Bill McNee (Old SER Team area) 920-662-5430

**For invasive plants**

Mark Guthmiller (Old SOR region: SCR & SER combined) 608-275-3223

Tom Boos (Statewide issues) 608-266-9276

**Direct public inquiries regarding yard tree concerns to UW county or state extension offices:**

UW Extension <http://www.uwex.edu/ces/cty/>

or

Emerald ash borer hotline 1-800-462-2803

Emerald ash borer e-mail DATCPEmeraldAshBorer@wi.gov

Gypsy moth hotline 1-800-642-MOTH

**Additional Program Web-based Resources:**

Forest Health web site: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestHealth/>

Gypsy Moth web site: <http://gypsymoth.wi.gov/>

Emerald ash borer web site: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestHealth/EmeraldAshBorer.html>

Emerald ash borer cooperative state web site: <http://emeraldashborer.wi.gov/>

**Forestry is now structured under Districts but Forest Health coverage continues under old region boundaries:**

**Old SCR Team Counties:** Columbia, Dane, Dodge, Grant, Green, Iowa, Jefferson, Lafayette, Richland, Rock and Sauk

**Old SER Team Counties:** Kenosha, Milwaukee, Ozaukee, Racine, Sheboygan, Walworth, Washington, and Waukesha