

# Northeastern Wisconsin Forest Health Update

Wisconsin DNR – Division of Forestry

February 19, 2015

## Topics covered this month:

### Insects:

EAB new finds in WI  
EAB additional reading  
MN implements mountain pine beetle quarantine  
Additional insect reading

### Diseases:

Annosum identified in MN  
BBD documents updated  
Christmas tree pest manual  
Diplodia  
Thousand cankers disease

### Other:

Invasive species awareness week  
Pesticide applicator training in Hayward on April 23  
WI DNR Forest Health annual report available on web

### Of Historical Interest:

25 years ago - 1990 –

- Personnel change, and chestnut blight article

60 years ago - 1955 –

- Direct control of Saratoga spittlebug

## Insects

**EAB new finds in WI** - In the past month emerald ash borer has been identified in the following areas around the state:

### New County Quarantines:

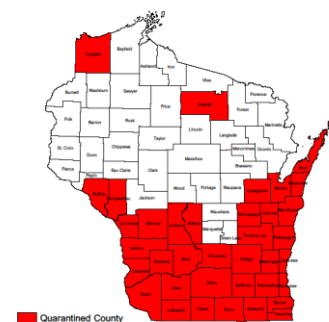
- none

### New finds in Counties already Quarantined:

- Jefferson County - Towns of Koshkonong and Sullivan
- Outagamie County - City of Appleton\*

\*Although Outagamie County was already quarantined, this is the first finding of EAB in the county. A tree trimming company, while working on private trees, noticed some woodpecker damage on the ash they were working on. Examination found the typical S-shaped galleries and a larva that the woodpeckers had missed, which was sent out for official identification as required for each first finding of EAB in a county.

Emerald Ash Borer Quarantine



### EAB additional reading:

- EAB was recently identified in northern Louisiana. Click for [story](#).
- White fringetree identified as a host for EAB. White fringetree is in the same family as ash (Oleaceae), but has only recently been identified as a host that EAB can complete its life cycle in. [Read more](#) and check out pics of white fringetree and EAB damage.

**MN implements mountain pine beetle quarantine** – in my December pest update I included a link to info on Minnesota’s proposal to implement a quarantine for mountain pine beetle. Effective January 1, 2015, that [quarantine](#) is now in place and prohibits movement of pine wood with bark (logs, chips, nursery stock, etc) into MN from western states known to have mountain pine beetle.

### Additional insect reading:

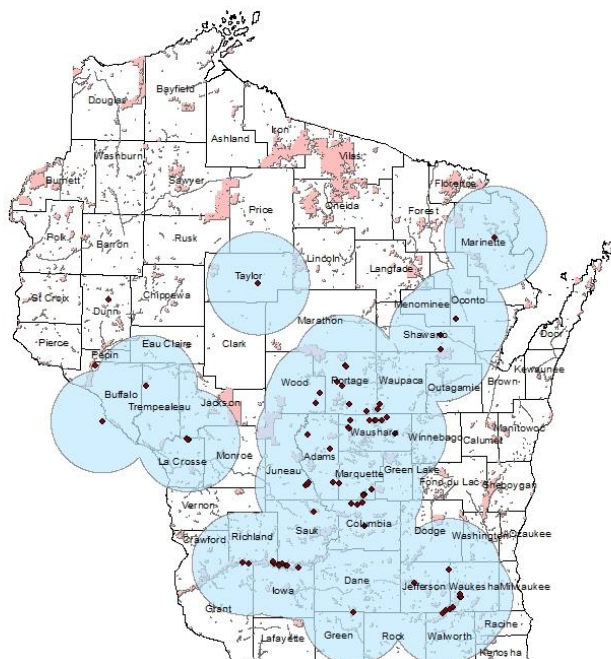
- Mountain pine beetle damage out west is declining, while spruce beetle damage is still increasing. Recently the National Association of State Foresters webpage had two articles regarding the decline of mountain pine beetle damage out west. Read more at the following two links: link 1 from [2/11/15](#), link 2 from [9/19/14](#). Each has additional links for more info if you’re interested.

## Diseases

**Annosum identified in Minnesota** - In mid-November of 2014, annosum (*Heterobasidion irregulare*) was found to be killing pine at a site in southeast Minnesota. The nearest known confirmed annosum site is in Trempealeau County, Wisconsin, approximately 30 miles northeast of the Winona County site. The fungus was formerly named *H. annosum* and *Fomes annosus*. The disease is also known as annosus or heterobasidion root disease. This is the first finding of annosum in MN.

Here in Wisconsin, if a state-owned property is within 25 miles of a known annosum

Map of 25-mile buffers (light blue) based on the locations of known stands of annosum root rot (As of: February 18, 2015)



site, the land manager must consider a risk-based [guide](#) to determine if stump treatment for annosum prevention must be done at the time of harvest. This new find in MN is close to our border so the 25-mile-radius map has been updated as shown here.

To the East of Wisconsin ... Michigan is preparing to do a more comprehensive survey for annosum this year.

**Beech bark disease documents updated** – A document titled "Management of Beech Bark Disease in Wisconsin" was recently updated. After going through several rounds of reviews by our internal and external partners, including the Silvicultural Guidance Team, it recently completed the public input process. The updated document can be found on the beech bark disease [page](#). Thank you to those of you who were involved in the review process. If you have any questions, please contact [Kyoko Scanlon](#).

Also, you may remember that the Reasonable Precautions were updated in October, 2013. Within the reasonable precautions there are a couple of questions related to firewood that will help folks determine if they can move the firewood immediately or if they should wait a year to let any scale on the bark die. Restrictions on log movement have been removed. Reasonable Precautions can be found at [here](#). For more information on beech bark disease, the biology, and its impact, click [here](#).



Beech logs (the white material on the logs is beech scale).

**Christmas tree pest manual, correction** – last month I included info on the updated (3<sup>rd</sup> edition) of the Christmas Tree Pest Manual. I incorrectly identified who was responsible for the latest edition ... it is the US Forest Service. If you would like a copy please send your mailing address to [Doreen Deutsch](#) or call 651-649-5244.



**Diplodia** - pines are more susceptible to *Diplodia* when they are under stress or following a hail storm (even small hail). Pine seedlings and saplings that are growing under a red pine overstory can be severely impacted. And, it can be a problem in nursery stock, which prompted WI DNR nursery and forest health staff, since 2006, to test asymptomatic red pine seedlings for *Diplodia* infection. *Diplodia* infects Austrian pine, red, jack, and Scotch pine.

*Diplodia* infects trees of different ages differently, including basal cankers, stem cankers, and shoot death. The fungus is capable of causing significant red pine seedling and sapling mortality with basal cankers by infecting and girdling the root collar area, causing whole-tree mortality. On sapling



Shoot tips killed by *Diplodia*.  
Photo by Chrissy Carney.



sized trees you can find stem cankers girdling and killing the tree from the canker point (anywhere along the main stem) to the top of the tree. Diplodia can also infect the shoot tips of any age of tree, killing the outer 6-12 inches of the branch. This shoot damage can cause mortality on young trees if too many shoots are killed.



Basal cankers caused by diplodia killed these red pine seedlings.

Mature trees that are severely affected may be weakened enough that bark beetles can attack and kill the tree. If diplodia is a problem in your stand you may want to remove trees where more than 50% of the crown has been killed or where more than 3 feet of the leader has been killed.

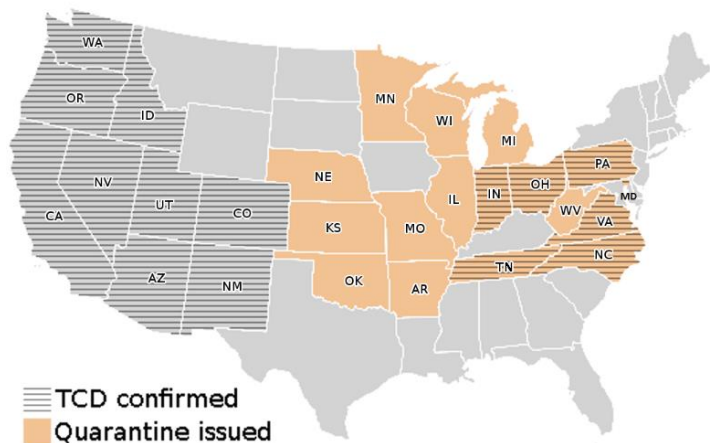


Pole-sized red pine with shoot tips killed by diplodia.

**Thousand cankers disease** – we still have not found thousand cankers disease (TCD) in Wisconsin, and we still continue to survey for it. TCD has recently been confirmed in Maryland (map at right, states with horizontal lines have confirmed TCD). Wisconsin does have a quarantine in place to prevent infected logs from being brought into the state.

TCD is an insect/disease combination that works to kill walnut trees. Neither the fungus (*Geosmithia morbida*) or the walnut twig beetle (*Pityophthorus juglandis*) have been found in Wisconsin at this time. Even though northeastern Wisconsin is well outside the native range of black walnut, I know that a lot of black walnut was historically planted as a component of stands, or in small groves. If you spot declining walnut in northeastern Wisconsin, it's possible that it's just growing poorly outside of its native range. But, if you have a declining/dying walnut, and the branches are riddled with tiny (1mm) exit holes, please let know. For more info on TCD check out the [Pest Alert](#).

Distribution of Thousand Cankers Disease as of January 20, 2015



Source: www.thousandcankers.com



Exit holes of walnut twig beetle. Photo by Whitney Crenshaw, bugwood.org

## Other/Misc.

**Invasive species awareness week** – Feb 22-28, 2015, is National Invasive Species Awareness week. We're not just talking insects and diseases here, we're talking all invasives, from plants to reptiles to birds, and everything in between. Check out the [National Invasive Species website](#) for things that you can do increase your awareness of invasive species, including a section called "Nine ways you can help", and be sure to also check out the [Ten Ways To Observe](#) document for additional ideas.

Are you a birdwatcher? You can help watch for EAB and Asian longhorned beetle as you're out birding. Check out the [Birdwatcher's Field Guide to Holes in Trees](#) put out by The Nature Conservancy.

Are you a teacher? Or do you need something for your own kids to do? Check out the lesson plans on topics including invasive species, how trees grow, tree health, and many others on the [Plant Heroes](#) webpage.

**Pesticide Applicator Training in Hayward on April 23** – from Kyoko Scanlon. FISTA is hosting a Pesticide Applicator Training & Exam in Hayward (Comfort Suites – 15586 County Road B, Hayward, WI 54843) on April 23. For more information, please contact FISTA at 715-282-4979 or 1-800-551-2656, website [www.fistausa.org](http://www.fistausa.org). Please note that registration cannot be taken over the phone. You will need to mail or fax (FAX 715-282-7987) the registration form.

**WI DNR Forest Health Annual Report on web** – the 2014 Forest Health Annual Report is now available [online](#). Check it out for info on annosum, cherry scallop shell moth, insect & disease surveys at the DNR nurseries, crazy worms, weather impacts, and many more forest health issues.

## Of Historical Interest

**25 years ago, in 1990** –

- There was a personnel change in the Forest Pest Management program in Wisconsin in 1990. Steve Katovich, Western District Forest Entomologist stationed in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, left state service for a position as Forest Entomologist with U.S.D.A. Forest Service, State and Private Forestry, St. Paul, Minnesota, on July 15, 1990.
- A Wisconsin DNR chestnut blight control project appeared in the February 1990 issue of National Geographic. The article "Chestnuts – Making a Comeback" outlined the national status of chestnut that included information on using fire fighting [sic] foam in Wisconsin to prevent spore dispersal when removing infected trees. A photo of Terry Buckman, DNR, applying the foam in May 1989, appeared in the magazine.

## 60 years ago, in 1955 –

- Direct Control Operations. Aerial spraying was conducted on 2,366 acres of state, county, and industrial forest land to control the Saratoga spittlebug *Aphrophora saratogensis* (Fitch).
- Direct Control Operations. Approximately 7,400 acres of red pine plantation on the Nicolet and Chequamegon National Forests were sprayed to prevent damage by the Saratoga spittlebug.

## Contact Us

**Forest Health Staff** - contact info for each Forest Health specialist can be found our webpage at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestHealth/staff.html>

Report EAB:

by phone 1-800-462-2803

by email

[DATCPEmeraldAshBorer@wisconsin.gov](mailto:DATCPEmeraldAshBorer@wisconsin.gov)

visit the website

<http://emeraldashborer.wi.gov/>

Report Gypsy Moth:

by phone at 1-800-642-6684

by email

[dnrfrgypsymoth@wisconsin.gov](mailto:dnrfrgypsymoth@wisconsin.gov)

visit the website

<http://www.gypsymoth.wi.gov/>

**Northeast Region Pest Update  
produced by:**

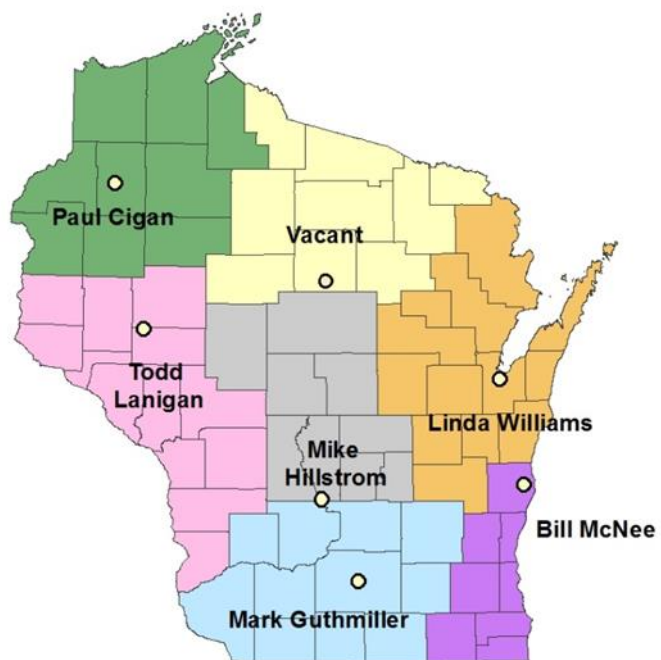
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<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestHealth/>



**Note: This pest update covers forest health issues occurring in Northeastern Wisconsin. This informal newsletter is created to provide up-to-date information to foresters, landowners, and others on forest health**

**issues. If you have insect or disease issues to report in areas other than northeastern Wisconsin please report them to your local extension agent, state entomologist or pathologist, or area forest pest specialist.**

Pesticide use: Pesticide recommendations contained in this newsletter are provided only as a guide. You, the applicator, are responsible for using pesticides according to the manufacturer's current label directions. Read and follow label directions and be aware of any state or local laws regarding pesticide use.