

West Central WI Forest Health Report

February 2015

Topics covered this month:

Insects

[EAB in Appleton](#)
[EAB biocontrol update](#)
[Eastern larch beetle](#)
[2015 gypsy moth treatment maps](#)
[Photos for Facebook](#)

Diseases

[2014 annosum finds](#)

Invasive Plants

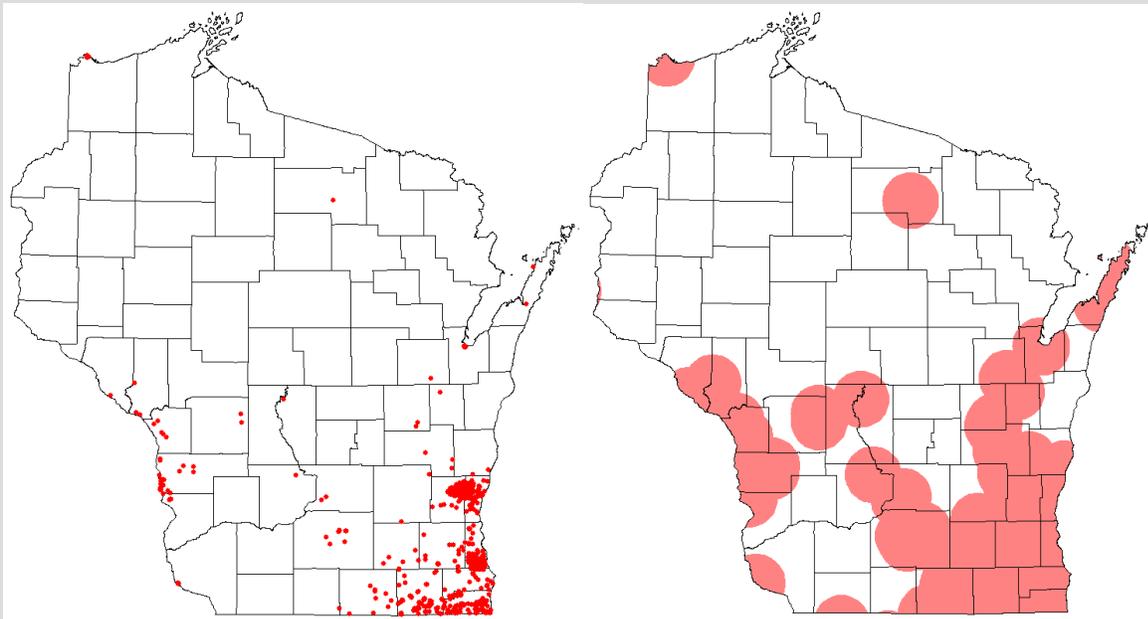
[Princess tree and crab apples](#)

[2014 Annual Report](#)

Arthropods

EAB Found in Appleton

EAB was recently discovered by a tree trimming crew in the city of Appleton. Although Outagamie County was already quarantined this was the first find in the county.



Figures 1, 2. Known EAB infestations in Wisconsin and 15 mile buffers around the finds. Figures by Bill McNee.

EAB Biocontrol Update

Forest health will likely have a new parasitoid wasp to help with biological control of EAB next year. *Spathius galinae* is expected to do better in Wisconsin than the current species of *Spathius* available because it is more cold hardy (from eastern Russia) and has a longer ovipositor which will help it reach EAB larvae inside larger trees.

Eastern Larch Beetle

We expect eastern larch beetle will continue to be a problem in Wisconsin and neighboring states in 2015. The current outbreak started in 2000 and has gone on much longer than anticipated. Fraser McKee, a graduate student in Minnesota has been studying the reasons for this prolonged outbreak. His research has found that changes in the beetle's life cycle have allowed them to mature, attack trees, and lay a set of eggs in fall. Studies in the past found that ELB only laid eggs in spring so an additional generation of beetles is a concerning find. Combine more beetles and greater beetle damage with drought and water table fluctuations and you have a recipe for a prolonged outbreak.

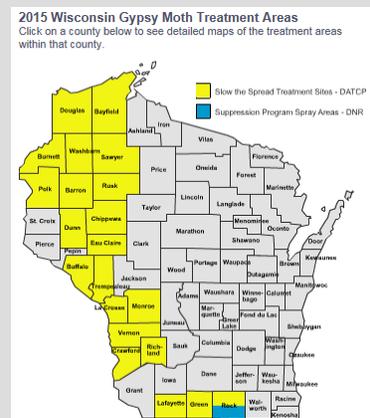


Photo 1. Adult eastern larch beetles darken as they age from tan to black. Photo by Fraser McKee.

2015 Gypsy Moth Treatment Maps Online

Wisconsin's 2015 gypsy moth treatment plan is now available on the web <http://gypsymoth.wi.gov/>.

Figure 3. Gypsy moth treatment plan for 2015 by county.



Send Us Your Best Beastie Photos

Forest health specialist for northeast WI Linda Williams did her best to break the DNR Facebook page in 2014 when a fishing spider photo she submitted went viral. This one photo received 1,555 likes, 11,228 shares, 3,671 comments, 1,195,520 views and was responsible for over 2,000 new followers of the DNR Facebook page! We'd love to continue educating the public about interesting bugs, mushrooms, or other creepy crawlies so if you take any interesting photos this year please send them to us (we'll give you photo credit of course).

Photo 2. The now famous photo of a Dark Fishing Spider posted to the DNR Facebook page on August 21, 2014.



Diseases

New Annosum Detections in 2014

Forest health staff continue to discover new annosum (*Heterobasidion irregulare*) infections in Wisconsin. We did not have any new county detections in 2014 but new sites were discovered in Columbia, Grant, Iowa and Marquette Counties. Minnesota's first annosum discovery occurred in November 2014 in Winona County about 30 miles from the nearest known site in Wisconsin.



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

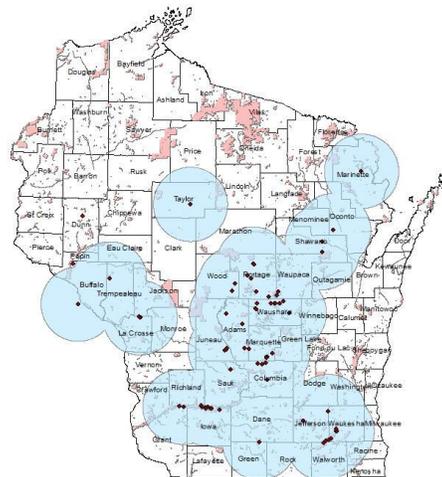


Photo 3. Annosum conks at the base of a red pine in Marquette County.

Figure 4. Map of 25-mile buffers around known annosum locations.

Invasive Plants

Princess tree and invasive crab apples

Check out two articles in forest health specialist Mark Guthmiller's December forest health update about invasive Princess trees and crab apples in southern Wisconsin.

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestHealth/documents/2014/ForestHealthSO-Dec14.pdf>

2014 Forest Health Annual Report

Available Now!

<http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestHealth/documents/AnnualReport2014.pdf>



For general forest health and municipal level urban forest health issues contact:



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

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Statewide reporting systems:

Report EAB:

by phone 1-800-462-2803

by email DATCPEmeraldAshBorer@wisconsin.gov

visit the website <http://emeraldashborer.wi.gov/>

Report Gypsy Moth:

by phone at 1-800-642-6684

by email dnfrgypsymoth@wisconsin.gov

visit the website <http://gypsymoth.wi.gov/>

For additional information visit the Forest Health web site: <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestHealth/>

Note: This report covers forest health issues occurring in the West Central District of Wisconsin. The purpose is to provide up-to-date information on forest health issues to foresters, forest landowners, and anyone else interested. We welcome your comments/suggestions on this newsletter as well as reports on forest health problems in your area. If you would like to subscribe to this newsletter, please contact Mike Hillstrom at Michael.hillstrom@wisconsin.gov. Previous issues of this update and regional forest health updates from NER, NOR and SOR, are available from the WI DNR Forestry website at <http://dnr.wi.gov/topic/ForestHealth/Publications.html>. Articles written by Mike Hillstrom unless otherwise noted.

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.