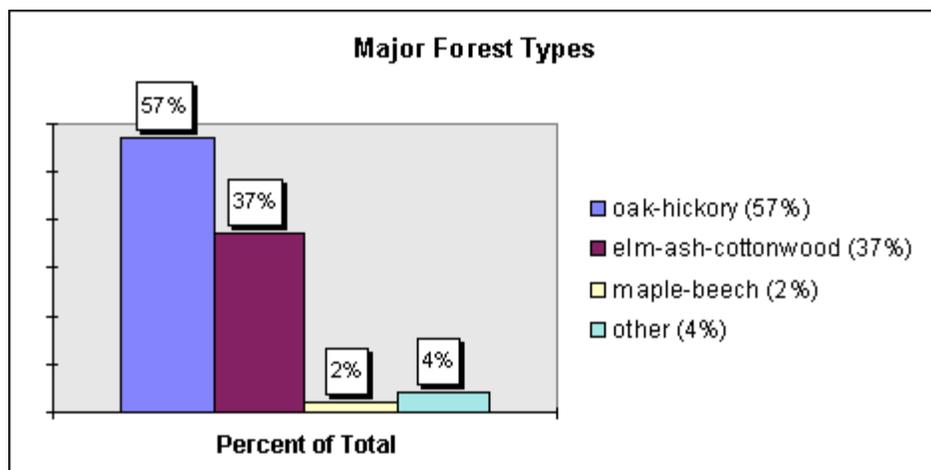


2000 Forest Health Highlights Illinois

The Resource

Illinois forests have many recreation and wildlife benefits. In addition, over 37,000 people are employed in primary and secondary wood processing and manufacturing. The net volume of growing stock has increased by 40 percent since 1962, a reversal of the trend from 1948 to 1962. The volume of elms has continued to decrease due to Dutch elm disease, but red and white oaks, along with black walnut, have increased by 38 to 54 percent since 1962.



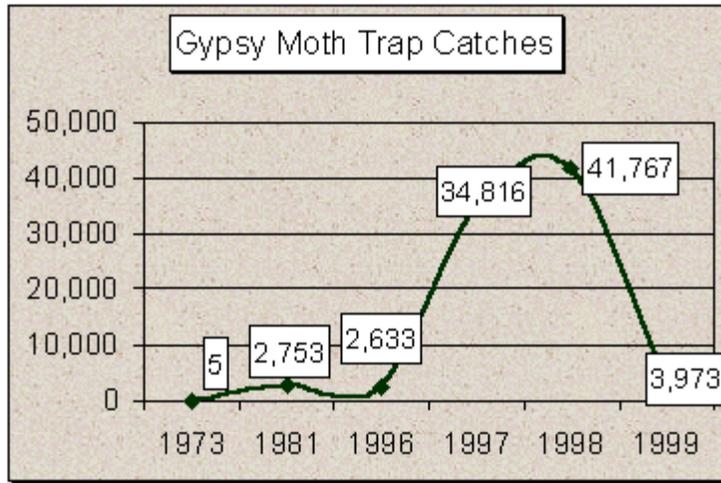
Asian longhorned beetle

In the year 2000 there is encouraging news about the Asian longhorn beetle situation in Illinois. As soon as the beetle was discovered in the Ravenswood area of Chicago in 1998, the Illinois Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the City of Chicago Bureau of Forestry, USDA APHIS PPQ, and the USDA Forest Service initiated a control plan. It was decided that designated boundaries would be defined around any area where adult beetles were discovered or where there was any evidence of beetle activities in a tree. In these areas every tree would be closely inspected if necessary using aerial lift trucks or tree climbers. All trees found to be infested would be destroyed. Since the program was initiated there were 5 areas in the Chicagoland area that became quarantine areas. In 1999 a total of 1,243 trees were destroyed in comparison to 181 trees destroyed in 2000. In 2000 a total of 11,440 uninfested trees were treated with imidacloprid in a trial effort to protect them from beetle infestations. The news media has to be commended for their excellent coverage in the newspapers, television, and radio of all aspects of the control program. A well informed public is essential to the success of the beetle eradication effort.

Gypsy moth

The total number of adult gypsy moths trapped in Illinois in 2000 was 8795 compared to 3973 trapped in 1999. This is an increase of 221% over the 1999 totals. The dramatic increase in the numbers prompted the USDA APHIS PPQ and the Illinois Department of

Agriculture to impose a quarantine in Lake County Illinois. It is in the northeastern counties of Illinois where the infestation is serious. The spraying of *Bacillus thuringiensis* and the application of phermone flakes will continue in the spring of 2001 in the northeastern sections of the state in hopes of slowing the spread of the gypsy in Illinois.



Pine shoot beetle

Through educational programs conducted throughout the state for the past 8 years, Christmas tree growers and foresters have learned to follow techniques that have greatly reduced beetle numbers. The removal and destruction of all dead and dying pine trees, insecticide applications on pine stumps, and the removal of all pine slash have been techniques stressed at all educational meetings. Because beetle populations have remained very low for the past 5 years no surveying for the beetle was conducted within Illinois in 1999.

European pine sawfly

Moderate to heavy infestations of the sawfly occurred during May on Scotch, Austrian, and red pines in the northern half of Illinois during 1999. Excellent control resulted when insecticide treatments were applied to young larvae in early May.

Fall webworm

Northern and west central counties reported heavy infestations of the fall webworm on walnut, hickory, black cherry, hawthorn, and oaks during August. No control is recommended as the damage occurs late in the growing season and no permanent injury appears to result from infestations.

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