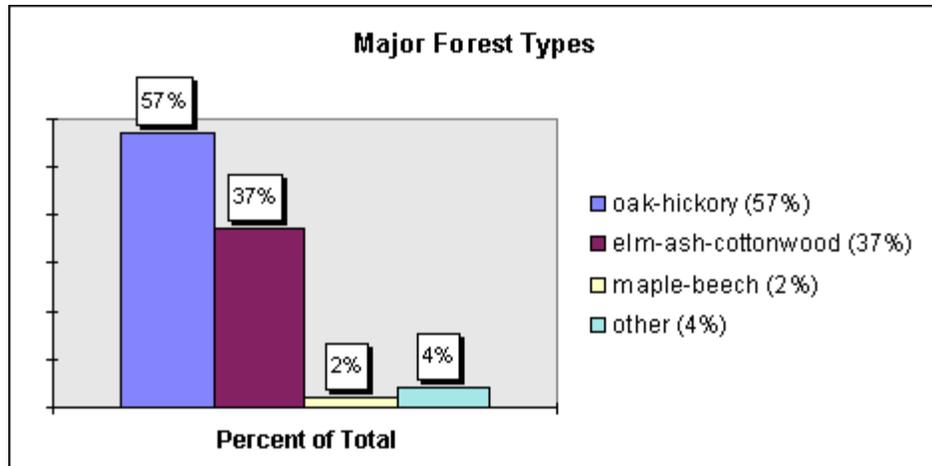


The Resource

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.

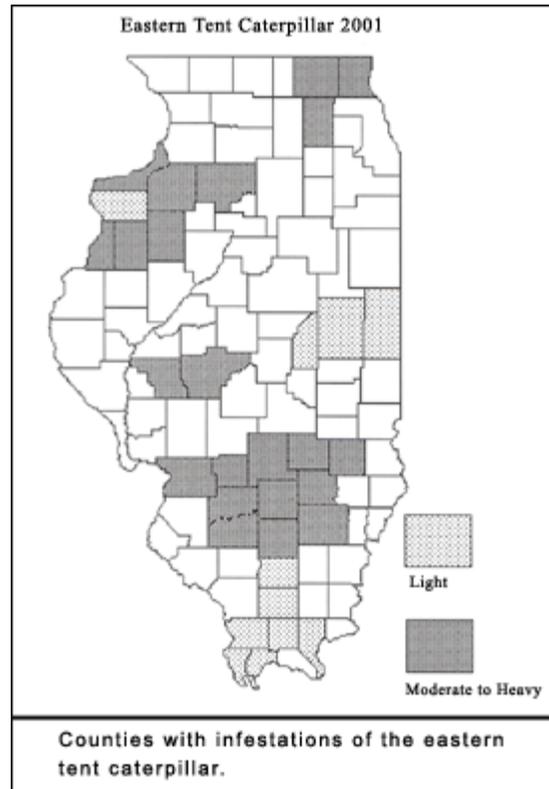


Special Issues

Eastern tent caterpillar - Many Illinois counties experienced moderate to heavy defoliation of black cherry trees during April and May. Crabapple and apple trees were also attacked. Growers should consider control measures during early April if many tiny web nests are noted. Black cherry readily refoliates after complete defoliation but the annual growth is slowed by the defoliation.



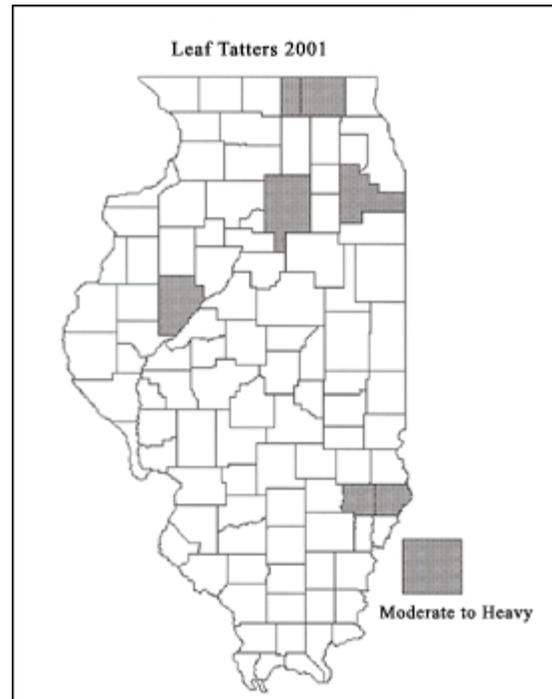
Small black cherry tree completely defoliated.
Photo by J. Appleby, Univ. of Illinois. Copyright.



Bagworm - Moderate to heavy infestations of bagworm occurred mostly in central Illinois counties. Spruce, white pine, juniper, and arborvitae plants are the common hosts. Complete defoliation of evergreens results in tree death. This insect is more commonly found in urban landscapes although Christmas plantations containing spruce and white pine are vulnerable. Badly damaged trees are not saleable and damaged ornamental trees are unsightly. Control is best accomplished with an insecticide application in mid June after all the overwintering eggs have hatched.



White oak foliage showing severe symptoms of leaf tatters.
Photo by J. Appleby, Univ. of Illinois. Copyright.

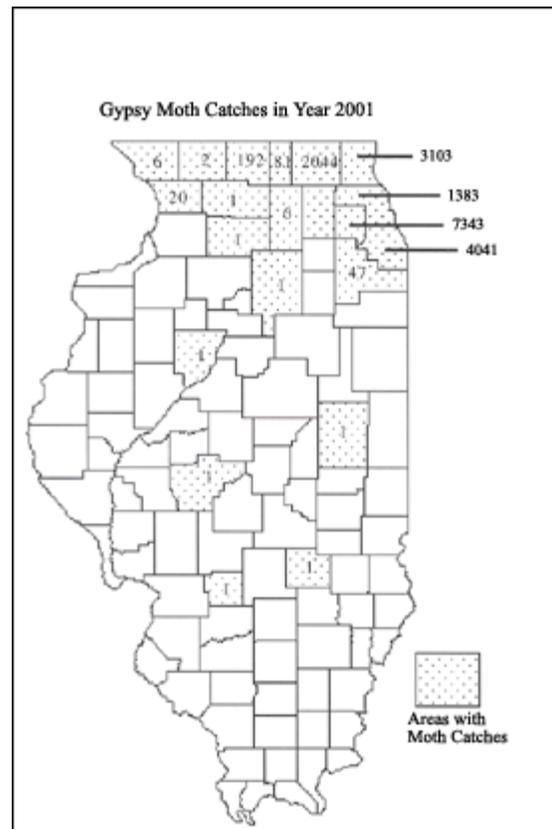


White oak foliage showing severe symptoms of leaf tatters.
Photo by J. Appleby, Univ. of Illinois. Copyright.

Gypsy Moth - The first gypsy moths caught in Illinois occurred in 1973 when 5 moths were captured in pheromone traps set in northern Illinois. Since 1973 there was a gradual increase in the number of moth catches with a peak occurring in the early 1980's and then a decrease until the mid 1990's when numbers again started to increase. The decrease in numbers in the 1980's can be attributed to the use of *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) sprays applied just after egg hatch in May. However in the 1990's with heavy infestations in some of the northern adjacent states and the increase of tourism and trade in these areas the numbers of moth catches started an increase in the 1990's and continues to the present. Infestations are becoming more numerous especially in the northeastern counties. The Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDA) in cooperation with USDA APHIS PPQ and the Forest Service have had a very successful suppression program. Now with many more areas of the northeastern counties becoming infested, the program of containment has been changed to a program of slowing the spread. In the northeastern counties the use of Bt sprays and pheromone flake applications will be used to slow the spread of the moth with continued moth trapping to monitor the spread.



Mature gypsy moth caterpillar.
Photo by J. Appleby, Univ. of Illinois. Copyright.



Gypsy moth trap catches. Information from the IL. Dept. of Agriculture, APHIS PPQ, and the USDA Forest Service.

Asian Longhorned Beetle - In the summer of 1998 personnel of the Illinois Department of Agriculture reported infested Norway maple trees in the Ravenswood area of Chicago. The IDA in cooperation with federal and Chicago municipal departments immediately began a thorough inspection of trees and where infested trees were located, quarantine areas were established. The Chicago newspapers, TV, and radio stations did a superb job in informing the public about the seriousness of the problem and requesting the public help in locating beetles and infested trees. Trucks with aerial lift buckets and tree climbers were used to inspect the bark surfaces of all trees in the quarantine areas. Any trees found to be infested were cut to ground level in the winter months and the wood burned. Thousands of trees were cut and destroyed in 1999 and 2000. Trees less susceptible to beetle attack were planted to replace the cut trees. In 2000 and 2001 some remaining trees in the quarantine areas, which appeared to be uninfested, were nevertheless treated with systemic insecticide trunk injections. In 2001 only two beetles were found in Chicago. The beetle continues to pose as a very serious threat to urban and forest trees but with the continuance of the present program this insect may be contained.



Asian longhorned beetle on silver maple trunk.
Photo by J. Appleby, Univ. of Illinois. Copyright.

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Updated: December 2001