

2009

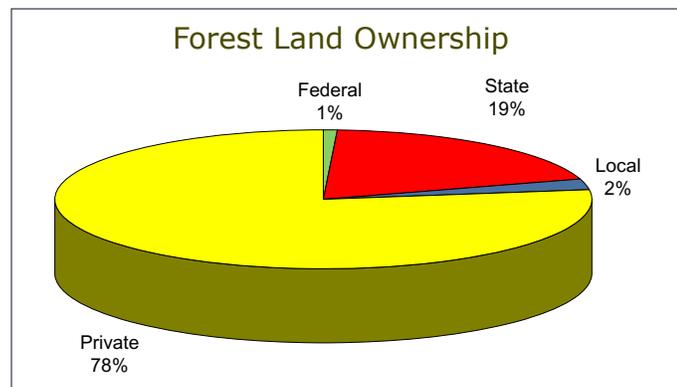
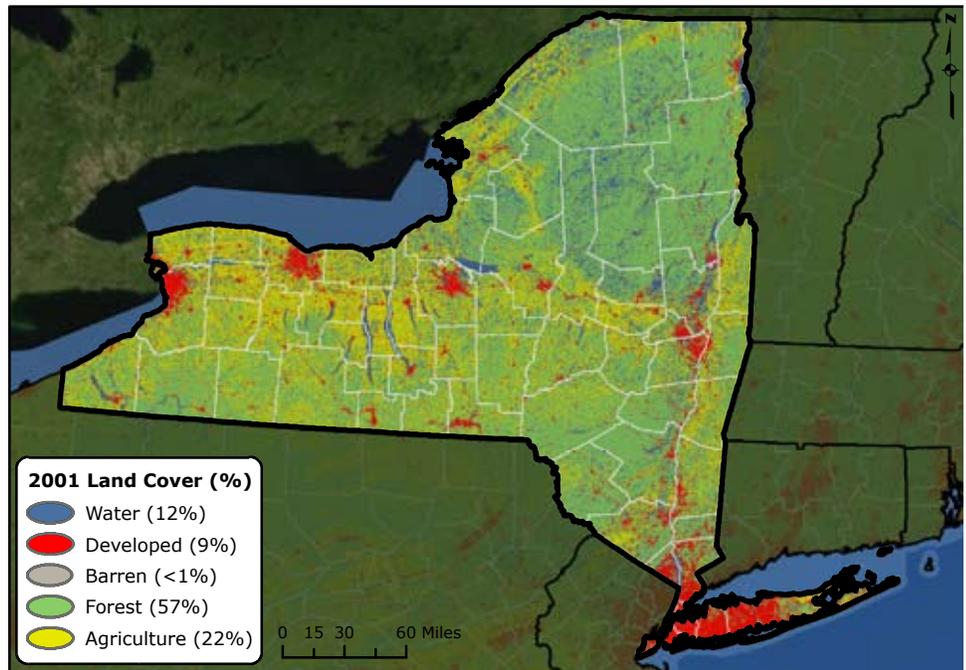
Forest Health *highlights*

NEW YORK



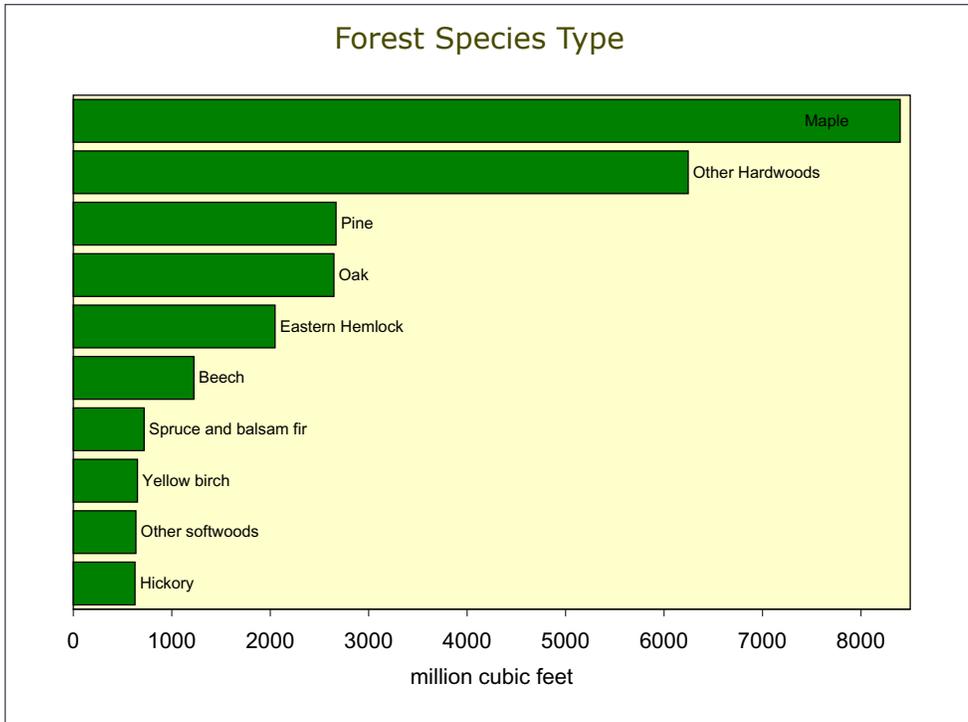
Forest Resource Summary

New York's forests are 78 percent privately owned. The State owns 19 percent of the land, which mostly encompasses the Adirondack Park. These forest lands provide a recreational base for millions of residents and others visiting the State's scenic regions. New York's forests also produce timber, providing employment to 2 percent of the State's workforce. The manufacture of wood products provides \$2.4 billion annually to the State's economy. The latest New York forest inventory estimates that 57 percent of the State is forested—approximately 18.7 million acres—with 22 percent in agriculture. The forest resource is made up of a variety of forest types, mostly maple and other hardwoods, along with pine, oak, and eastern hemlock.



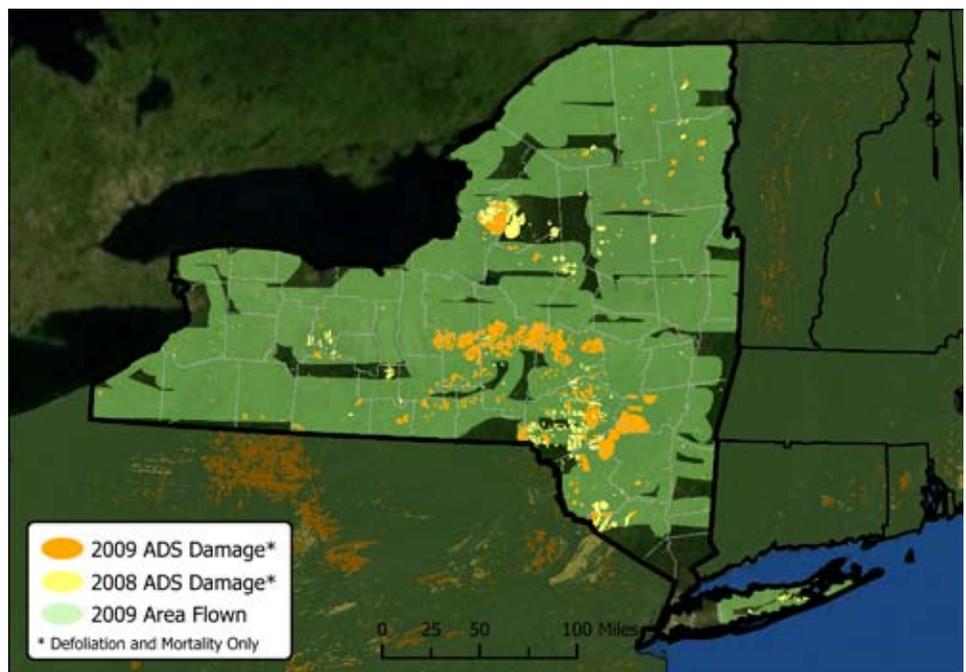
Forest Health Programs in the Northeast

State forestry agencies work in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service to monitor forest conditions and trends in their State and respond to pest outbreaks to protect the forest resource.



Aerial Surveys

In New York, 729,727 acres of damage were reported throughout the State. The majority of damage, 501,369 acres, was defoliation caused by forest tent caterpillar, with an additional 33,257 acres of mortality. There was a little over 84,814 acres of mortality throughout the State and another 50,228 acres of defoliation mapped from general defoliators. Foliage discoloration accounted for another 19,482 acres.



This map delineates aerial detection survey (ADS) results for New York in 2008 and 2009.

Forest Damage

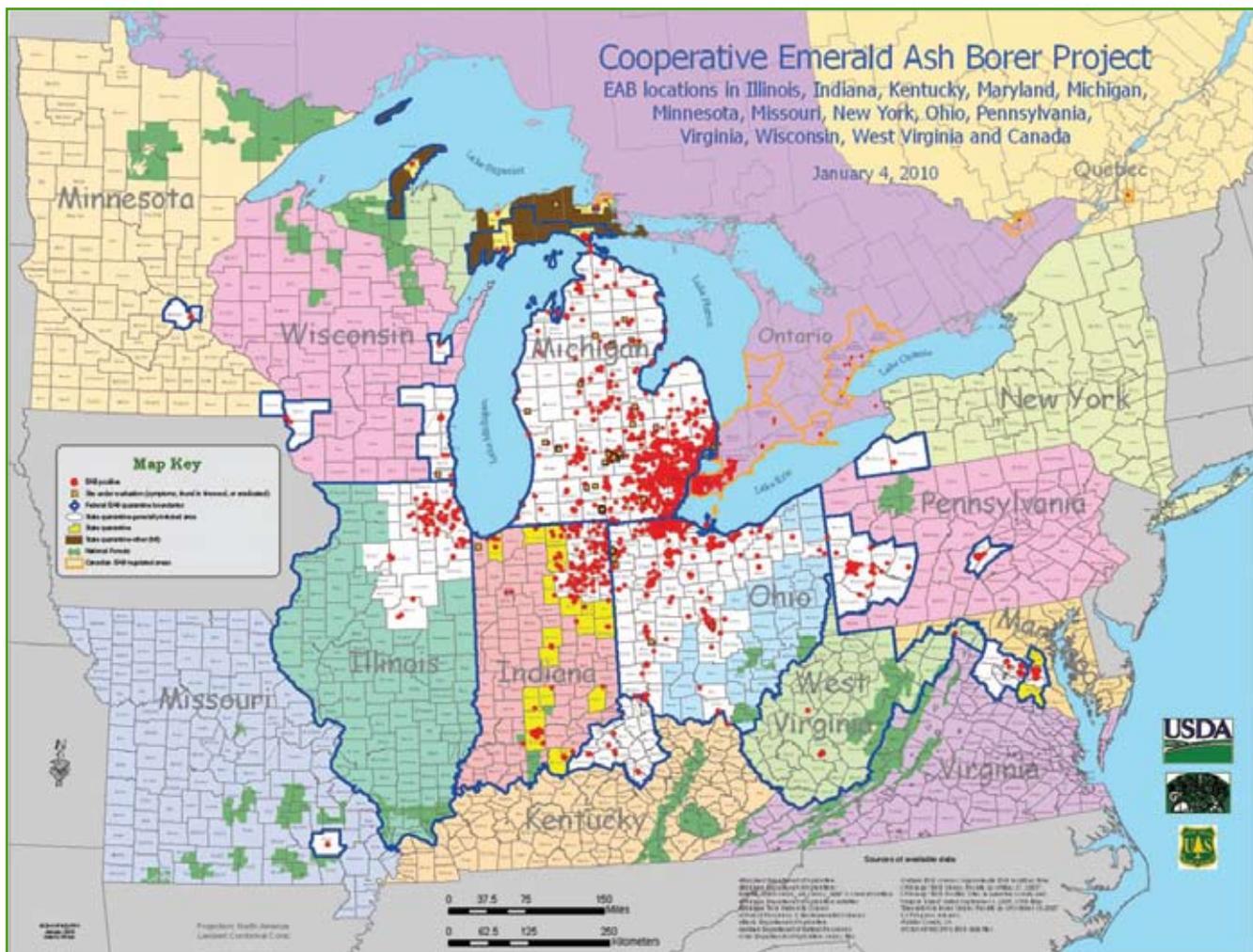
A variety of defoliators caused damage across New York State. **Forest tent caterpillar** was again the most significant defoliator in New York in 2009. Approximately half a million acres were confirmed defoliated, with damage occurring in the Catskills and west throughout the central part of the State. Some mortality has also occurred in the affected stands.

About 30,000 acres were defoliated by **gypsy moth** in 2009. Damage was concentrated in the western Finger Lakes, southern Catskills, and the Hudson Valley. **Locust leafminer** once again caused some moderate to heavy discoloration and defoliation on black locust over portions of eastern New York, especially the lower- to mid-Hudson River Valley around Route 9. Damage has been starting earlier in the season each year for the past few years.

In June 2009, **emerald ash borer**, which has killed millions of ash trees across the Midwest and Canada, was found for the first time in New York State in the town of Randolph in Cattaraugus County. Approximately 45 infested trees were destroyed. Extensive surveys and trapping have found no more infested trees outside of the town. Surveys are ongoing throughout the State. During surveys for emerald ash borer, many stands containing ash that had various symptoms of "decline" were mapped. Native ash borers were sometimes present in these stands, and a few cases of ash yellows were found as well.



The Emerald ash borer.



Map of Cooperative Emerald Ash Borer Project January 4, 2010.

Cooperative efforts to eradicate **Asian longhorned beetle** from the quarantined areas on Long Island and in New York City, including Staten Island, are ongoing, but progress is slow. Very few new infested trees were found in 2009. This is the only active ongoing infested area in the United States, outside of the significant infestation in Worcester, MA, which was discovered in 2008.



The Asian longhorned beetle.

Hemlock woolly adelgid continues to cause damage and mortality to native forest and ornamental eastern hemlock trees. In 2009, the adelgid was found in a Troy city park in Rensselaer County. No new counties in the Finger Lakes Region were found to be infested. Damage is most severe in areas that have been infested for several years, particularly in the Catskills and southern part of the State. In some areas,

a majority of the trees are infested and many of those are in declining health or dead.

The **elongate hemlock scale** is common in approximately the same range as hemlock woolly adelgid, and often, but not always, found in the same stands. Damage from the scale is hard to separate from damage by the adelgid at times, but it is believed that both insects have caused significant decline and mortality of hemlocks.

No additional areas were found infested by the **common European pine shoot beetle**.

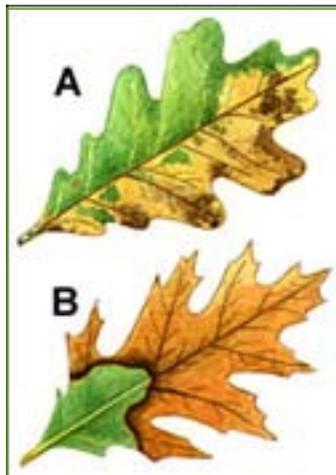
Also, the **Sirex woodwasp** was not found in any new counties in 2009. Given the relatively low efficiency of the traps and lures currently available for *Sirex noctilio* as well as the expansion of the trapping effort into neighboring States, it is likely that other New York counties are also infested but have escaped detection. Within the known infestation, much of the worst damage is found on State-owned pine plantations, many of which are overstocked or in declining health.



Overview map of the Asian longhorned beetle eradication program of New Jersey and New York in 2009.

The **European oak borer** was found in two traps—one in Brockport (Monroe County) and the other in Kendall (Orleans County), less than 5 miles apart. This is the first find in New York, and New York is the second State in the United States from which this species has been reported. The borer was reported in Ontario, Canada, in February 2009. The oak in that area has not yet been surveyed to locate any established colonies. This borer is considered a factor in oak decline in Europe and may be a potential pest here in the United States.

Oak wilt was detected in New York for the first time in 2008 in Schenectady County in the town of Glenville, where at least six oaks had been killed. In the spring of 2009, 73 trees, infested or likely to become infested, were destroyed. No new infested trees have been found in the treated area and no other infested areas have been found in the State.



Symptoms of oak wilt in
A. white oak and B. red oak

Butternut canker is common in New York wherever butternut is found; it is uncommon to see a symptom-free butternut. This disease was not reported from any new counties in 2009. The Department of Environmental Conservation has begun archiving locations of healthy butternut, when it is found or reported, but the dataset is far from complete.

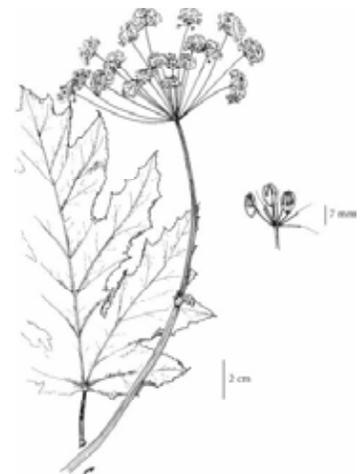
Symptoms of **Dutch elm disease** are conspicuous statewide. Many of the trees now succumbing are mature individuals in urban and suburban settings, which survived the initial wave of the disease through the region. **Beech bark**

disease can be found readily throughout New York State. **Dogwood anthracnose** continues to affect understory and ornamental flowering dogwood across the State.

No surveys were conducted in 2009 for **Phytophthora ramorum**, the cause of sudden oak death in California. Previous surveys indicated that this blight has not been identified in New York State. A statewide **bacterial leaf scorch** survey in cities and forests resulted in no new confirmed counties. There were previous positive finds in Westchester County, Rockland County, and Kings County in Brooklyn.

Above average **precipitation** across most of the State during the months of June, July, and August lead to 12,000 acres of water damage in 2009. This is up from about 6,000 acres in 2008.

Invasive plants are a significant concern in some areas. Giant hogweed, a noxious weed, is present in 32 New York counties. There are 647 known populations of the plant, with the largest and densest of these found in the western half of the State. This year was the second year of manual eradication and the first year of herbicide use against this species. One property in the city of Olean, Cattaraugus County, was found to be infested with mile-a-minute plants. Eradication was conducted and no more infestations were found. An infestation of kudzu was found in Rockland County. The infestation is about 200 meters long on an abandoned railway and no action has been taken yet.



Giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*).



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