

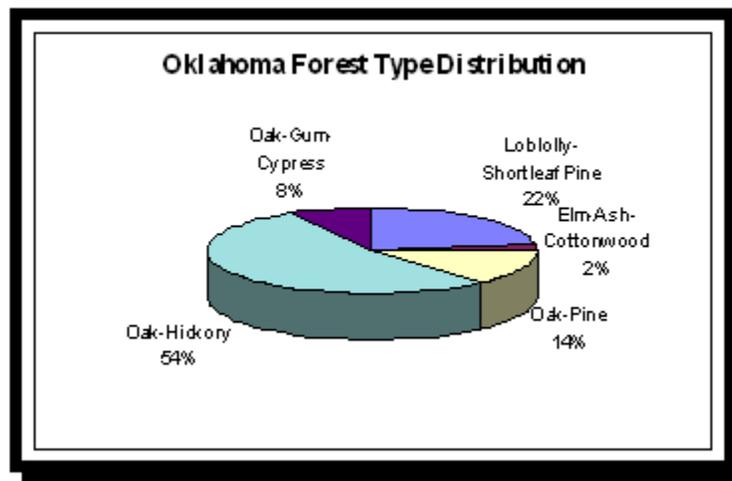
# Forest Health Highlights 2004

## Oklahoma

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### The Resource

Oklahoma's forests cover 10 million acres, about 20% of the state's land area. Some 6.9 million acres of the state's forested land is in nonindustrial private ownership, while approximately 397,000 acres are in national forest. Oklahoma's forests are prized for their scenic beauty, supporting tourism and outdoor recreation and providing wildlife habitat throughout the state. Major forest types in the state include oak-hickory, loblolly and shortleaf pine, mixed oak-pine, and oak-gum-cypress.



Forest health monitoring (FHM) activities are cooperative efforts between the USDA Forest Service and the Oklahoma Department of Agriculture Forestry Services. The FHM program in Oklahoma includes regular aerial and ground surveys to detect forest damage.

### Special Issues

Key issues that State and federal programs are addressing cooperatively include:

- Sustainable management of private forest lands
- Protection and development of urban and community forest resources
- Increasing participation by underserved citizens in forestry programs

### Forest Influences

Major insect and disease outbreaks have been infrequent within the forested areas of eastern Oklahoma.

Southern pine beetle (SPB) occasionally causes problems in Oklahoma, but no activity was reported in 2004.

Gypsy moth surveying continues throughout the state. No moths were captured in Oklahoma in 2004.

Grasshopper damage to blackjack oak stands in central Oklahoma declined sharply in 2004 and no large areas of defoliation were reported.

Red oak borer damage in northeastern portions of the state declined in 2004. However, mortality and degrade of oak lumber is already severe.

Fire-associated oak mortality and decline were identified in southern Adair and northern Sequoyah Counties in 2004.

## **Forest Health Assistance in Oklahoma**

For further information or assistance, contact:

### **Oklahoma Department of Agriculture**

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Oklahoma City, OK 73105  
(405) 521-3864

### **USDA Forest Service**

Forest Health Protection  
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(318) 473-7286