

Number 17 - October 17, 2011

### **Last Issue for 2011**

This is the last issue of the Home, Yard, and Garden Pest Newsletter for this year. We plan on publishing the first issue of 2012 in mid-April. As always, your suggestions for improving this newsletter are welcome. Contact me, the editor of the newsletter, at [pnixon@illinois.edu](mailto:pnixon@illinois.edu). Thanks for your interest and input this year. (*Phil Nixon*)

### **Cedar Beetle**

A number of cedar beetles have been sent in for identification over the past few weeks from the southern half of Illinois. Cedar beetles, also known as cicada parasite beetles, are in the family Rhipiceridae. Generally, they are reported as flying around or crawling on a tree in large numbers.

Cedar beetle adults are large, stocky, dark brown beetles that are about one inch long. They are flattened dorsally with the head pointed downward. The males have short but obvious comb-like antennae. The adult beetles lay their eggs bark cracks which hatch into slender, active larvae called triungulins. These triungulin larvae burrow through the soil seeking out cicada nymphs. Once a cicada nymph is found, the triungulin larva molts into a slow-moving, grub-like larva that grabs onto the cicada nymph and feeds on its hemolymph, its blood.

Mature larvae pupate and emerge as adults in years when periodical cicadas emerge. We are seeing these beetles in the same areas of Illinois where periodical cicadas emerged this year. They were also numerous last year in southern Illinois. Those were likely beetles that matured a year early, as do some of the periodical cicadas.

As cicada nymphs feed on tree roots, it is natural for their parasites to emerge from the soil under tree canopies. It is also where the adults would lay their eggs so that the larvae could seek out cicada nymphs feeding on the roots.

These beetles are interesting due to their habits and life style. Although large and locally numerous, they are not considered to be pests. In fact, some could argue that any insect that reduces the number of cicadas should be considered to be beneficial. (*Phil Nixon*)

### **Emerald Ash Borer**

Traps set to monitor the movement of the emerald ash borer have detected the beetle in two additional Illinois counties, DeWitt and Stark counties. Both detections occurred in rural areas. In DeWitt County, the beetle was discovered between Clinton Lake and the McLean County border. In Stark, it was trapped near Toulon.

“The nearly five thousand traps that were placed throughout the state have been carefully examined,” Warren Goetsch, IDOA bureau chief of Environmental Programs, said. “Including these two finds, they detected the emerald ash borer in four new counties, bringing the number of counties with known infestations to 22.” Earlier this year, emerald ash borer was first detected in Kankakee, Marion, and Effingham counties.

Currently, 25 counties in the northeastern and central part of the state are under quarantine to slow the spread of the beetle. The quarantine prohibits the intrastate movement of potentially contaminated wood products, including ash trees, limbs and branches and all types of firewood. However, neither DeWitt nor Stark County is within those quarantine boundaries.

“The quarantine boundaries undoubtedly will need to be adjusted,” Goetsch said. “Meantime, I’d encourage residents of DeWitt and Stark counties to put the quarantine guidelines into practice by making sure not to transport any firewood or untreated wood products outside their county of origin. I’d also encourage tree companies, villages and cities to familiarize themselves with the rules and regulations pertaining to the processing and transporting of ash materials.”

Anyone who suspects a tree has been infested is urged to contact either their county University of Illinois Extension office or village forester. For more information, visit [www.IllinoisEAB.com](http://www.IllinoisEAB.com). (*Illinois Department of Agriculture News Release modified by Phil Nixon*)

## **Index 2011**

Following is an index to the pests and other topics addressed in the 2011 issues of the Home, Yard, and Garden Pest Newsletter. Under each item, the issue number is followed by the page number where each topic starts.

### **General**

Chemical injury 9:3, 11:4  
Invasive species 3:2, 6:4  
Organic vegetables 5:3  
Plant Clinic 1:3, 7:4, 10:2, 16:3  
Windbreaks 11:2

### **Insects**

Bagworm 7:2, 9:1, 10:1, 11:1  
Brown marmorated stink bug 1:4  
Buffalo gnats 4:1  
Burrowing sod webworm 9:1  
Cedar beetle 17:1  
Centipedes 9:2  
Cerceris 5:2  
Cicada killer 12:3  
Earwigs 9:3  
Elm sawfly 14:1  
Emerald ash borer 5:2, 6:1, 7:1, 16:2, 17:1  
Fall webworm 15:1  
Flatheaded appletree borer 10:1  
Fourlined plant bug 9:2  
Fungus gnats 9:2, 10:1  
Galls 16:1  
Green June beetle 12:2  
Gypsy moth 4:2  
Japanese beetle 1:2, 8:2, 10:1, 11:1  
Millipedes 9:2  
Oystershell scale 3:1  
Periodical cicada 2:1, 6:1, 8:1, 9:1, 10:1, 16:1  
Phenology 4:1  
Pillbugs 9:2  
Red pine sawfly 5:1  
Scoliid wasps 14:2  
Slugs 9:3

Sod webworms 13:1  
Sowbugs 9:2  
Spider wasps 14:3  
Springtails 9:2  
Spruce spidermite 1:1  
Twig girdler 15:2  
Twig pruner 15:2  
Twospotted spidermite 12:3  
Velvet ants 14:2  
Weather 3:1, 9:2  
White grubs 11:1, 12:1, 13:2  
Zimmerman pine moth 14:1

### **Diseases**

Anthraxnose 3:4  
Bacterial leaf scorch 13:2  
Cytospora 2:4  
Diplodia tip blight 2:4  
Drought 15:3  
Fire blight 7:6  
Foliar nematodes 16:4  
Hosta abiotic problems 16:5  
Hosta virus X 16:5

Leaf spots 16:5  
Oak wilt 13:3  
Organic vegetables 5:3  
Peach leaf curl 6:3  
Petiole rot 16:4  
Rhizosphaera 2:3  
Rose rosette 12:5  
SNEED 6:2  
Sphaeropsis Blight/(Diplodia) Tip Blight  
2:4  
Stigmina 2:3  
Stress 4:4, 8:3, 9:6  
Sudden needle drop of spruce (SNEED)  
6:2  
Tree decline 14:3  
Verticillium wilt 12:4

### **Weeds**

Henbit 3:3  
Imprelis herbicide 14:3  
Nimblewill 4:3  
Ryegrass 7:3