

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade & Consumer Protection

# Wisconsin Pest Bulletin

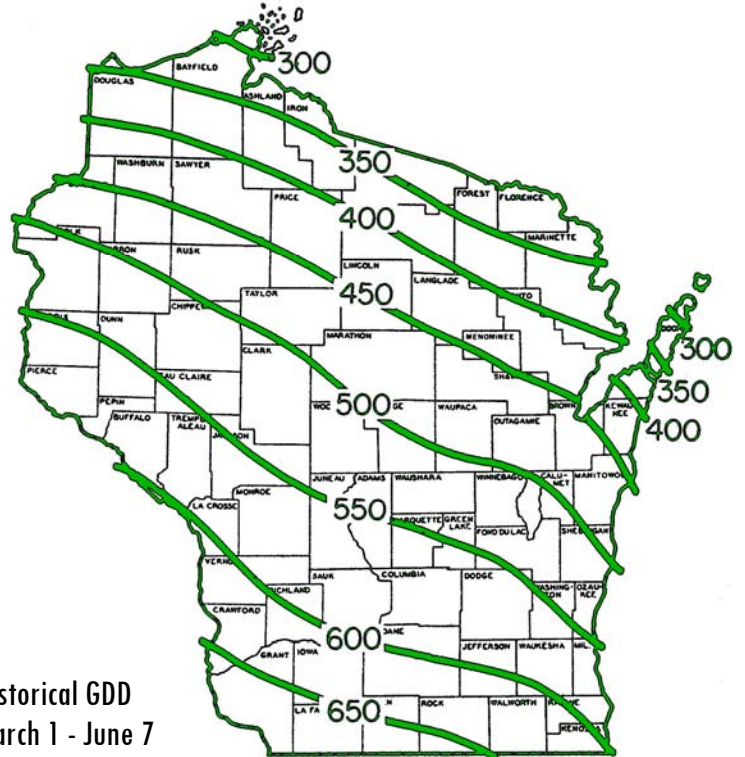
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Your weekly source for crop pest news, first alerts, and growing season conditions for Wisconsin



## Weather and Pests

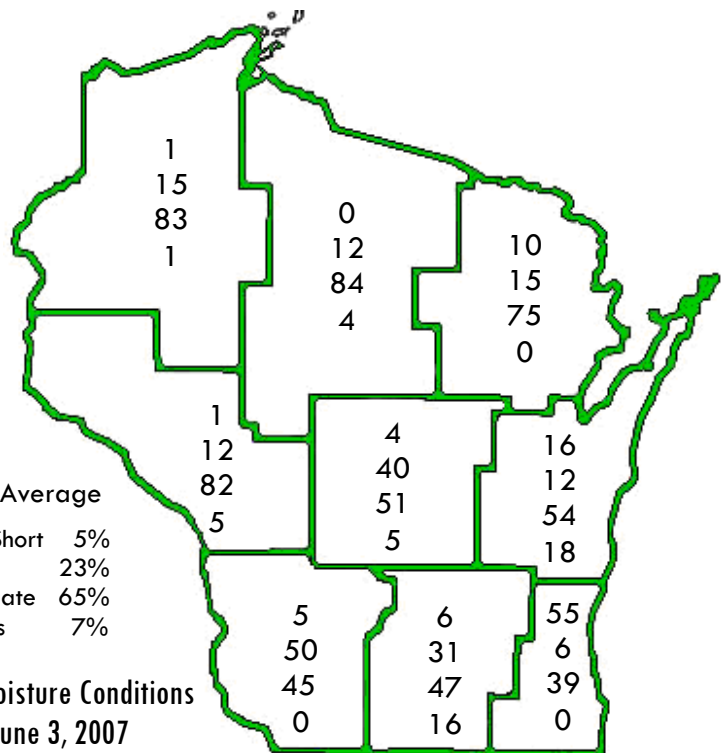
Severe thunderstorms swept through north central Wisconsin on the afternoon of June 7, producing damaging winds and hail up to four inches in diameter. Wind speeds across the state gusted as high as 60 mph. Insect activity continued to escalate, especially potato leafhoppers, bean leaf beetles and mosquitoes. Surveys this week detected first generation European corn borer larvae and light armyworm feeding injury in corn fields, while soybeans were checked for colonizing soybean aphids and bean leaf beetle defoliation. Moderate to high numbers of potato leafhoppers are present in most southern and central alfalfa fields. Weed problems are on the increase in areas where herbicide applications were offset or delayed by persistent rainfall.



Historical GDD  
March 1 - June 7

## Growing Degree Days through 06/07/07 were

	GDD 50F	2006	5-Yr	48F	40F
Dubuque, IA	800	660	684	852	1427
Lone Rock	756	632	652	786	1353
Beloit	775	696	681	796	1390
Madison	709	597	617	743	1297
Sullivan	687	622	623	691	1256
Juneau	672	567	591	699	1240
Waukesha	654	553	566	677	1219
Hartford	656	546	555	682	1221
Racine	609	503	504	624	1163
Milwaukee	610	511	500	636	1165
Appleton	624	557	517	641	1155
Green Bay	548	485	445	569	1073
Big Flats	676	612	595	684	1214
Hancock	653	597	574	652	1166
Port Edwards	652	616	561	661	1179
La Crosse	799	705	681	824	1419
Eau Claire	698	679	614	728	1267
Cumberland	634	590	523	643	1153
Bayfield	436	393	343	428	0871
Wausau	589	533	494	589	1081
Medford	574	543	480	576	1068
Crivitz	525	480	422	535	1007
Crandon	525	475	436	515	0975



## Looking Ahead

**Periodical cicada** - Emergence of Brood XIII has been confirmed in portions of Richland, Rock and Walworth counties. Staff of the Janesville Gazette spotted thousands of periodical cicadas on the afternoon of May 31 at Camp Indian Trails on the Rock River north of Janesville. Additional sightings have been reported in the Lake Geneva area and near Richland Center. DATCP and DNR records from 1973 and 1990 indicate localized emergences may also occur within areas in Crawford, Dane, Iowa, Grant, Kenosha, Racine and Sauk counties this year. Orchard and nursery growers with susceptible stock, including young trees or shrubs with branches ¼ to ½ inch in diameter, should take measures to protect plants from cicada oviposition and feeding in the next week. Brood XIII cicada sightings are being compiled and mapped by DATCP Entomologist, Krista Hamilton. Readers are encouraged to report observations to her by emailing [krista.hamilton@datcp.state.wi.us](mailto:krista.hamilton@datcp.state.wi.us).



Brood XIII cicada

[www.cicadomania.org](http://www.cicadomania.org)

**Insect Migration Risk Forecast** - The University of Illinois Insect Migration Risk Forecast indicated a MODERATE risk of insect migration across much of the Midwest from noon on Thursday, June 7 through noon on Friday, June 8. During this 24-hour period, weather patterns were favorable for insect migration, particularly corn earworm flight activity. According to the IMRF, the greatest risk area was south of I-94 between I-35 and I-29/US 71 east to I-71, including parts of southern and west central Wisconsin. Corn earworm traps placed in these areas could register a “drop out” of significant numbers of early-season corn earworm moths over the weekend (June 8-10) or a minor increase in moth activity. To view the risk map, please visit <http://www.maplecity.com/~sand/cew/imrf.html>.

**European corn borer** - Slight increases in European corn borer moth counts were documented at several black light trapping sites and first instar larvae were detected in the tallest Iowa County corn fields surveyed this week. Black light trap counts for the reporting period of June 1 to 8 were: Arlington 18 moths, Chippewa Falls 1 moth, East Troy 32 moths, Janesville 3 moths, Lancaster 6 moths,

Marshfield 12 moths, Manitowoc 2 moths, Sparta 63 moths, and Wausau 1 moth. According to the European corn borer degree day model, accumulations are such that peak flight should have occurred as far north as Port Edwards in Wood County where 631 GDD were surpassed on June 7.

**Corn earworm** - Seventeen migratory moths were captured in a pheromone trap near Lancaster in Grant County during the past week, marking the first capture of corn earworm in Wisconsin this season. Recent weather patterns across the upper Midwest may have contributed to the south-north migration that directed these moths into the state. Based on the Insect Migration Risk Forecast, additional moths could arrive or “drop out” over the weekend or in the week ahead. Pheromone lures should be replaced at this time and every two weeks through mid-July.

**Potato leafhopper** - Reproduction was noted for the first time this season on June 2 in eastern Dane County. Some of the second and third instar nymphs spotted on the undersides of rhubarb leaves are likely to have reached adulthood by now. With nymph production underway, populations could begin to build rapidly in the next few weeks. Scouting second crop regrowth alfalfa for adults and nymphs is advised.

**Common stalk borer** - In areas where 1,400 GDD will be surpassed next week, including Dubuque and La Crosse, corn fields should be scouted closely for stalk borer activity. The characteristic series of ragged holes caused by larval stalk borers first becomes evident in the border rows. For the past few weeks larvae from overwintered eggs have been feeding in various grasses and weeds, but in advanced parts of southern Wisconsin, migration to larger host plants such as corn has begun. Stalk borer larvae are expected to move into corn fields between 1,400 GDD (base 41°F) and 1,700 GDD. Since insecticides are no longer effective once larvae have tunneled into corn plants, it is critical to detect infestations early, while the larvae are still feeding in the whorl. Fields with heavy injury may benefit from spot treating infested border rows. Once corn plants grow beyond V7, stalk borer feeding is unlikely to kill affected plants.



Stalk borer feeding injury

Krista Hamilton DATCP



**True armyworm** - A full-grown armyworm larva was observed “wandering” across a Dane County roadway on June 7. This sighting suggests some percentage of the larval population in Dane County has entered the pupal stage. In a matter of days, an increase in true armyworm moth counts may be registered at some southern black light trap locations. Look for moth numbers to escalate in the week ahead.

**Mosquitoes** - *Aedes vexans* has been the dominant biting species in the past week and is becoming increasingly numerous. Annoyance to humans and cattle may intensify in certain areas of the state during the next two to three weeks now that recent rains have refilled breeding pools.

## Forages

**Potato leafhopper** - Nymph production has begun and counts are on the rise in second crop regrowth. Surveys this week found scattered alfalfa fields in the southern and central districts with sufficient potato leafhopper numbers to justify treatment. In Iowa County, three of four 4-10” regrowth fields sampled had been sprayed. One of the fields had 0.6 leafhoppers per sweep, while the others had no more than 0.1 per sweep, including some dead individuals. Fields checked in the central and north central districts had variable populations, ranging from 1-3 per sweep in 24” Marathon County fields and from 0-1 per 10 sweeps in 6” alfalfa in Wood County.



Potato leafhopper nymph

[www.vegedge.umn.edu](http://www.vegedge.umn.edu)

Second crop regrowth is particularly vulnerable to potato leafhopper injury and should be monitored closely as populations escalate this month. Once reproduction has started, just 10 days are required for populations with overlapping generations to double in size. Using a 15” sweep net, take 20 sweeps in five separate areas of the field and calculate the average number of leafhoppers per sweep. Carefully check the rims of sweeps nets where the tiny, neon green nymphs typically collect. Economic thresholds for potato leafhopper adults and nymphs are as follows: 0.2 in alfalfa < 3 inches; 0.5 in alfalfa 3-6 inches; 1.0 in alfalfa 6-12 inches; 2.0 in alfalfa 12-14 inches.

**Alfalfa weevil** - Pupae were observed during surveys this week, which indicates weevil pressure in second crop regrowth should soon decline. However, recently-cut alfalfa still bears watching in the week ahead, despite low levels of defoliation and declining densities of larvae. Control of alfalfa weevil is warranted whenever 40% tip feeding is observed more than 7-10 days prior to harvest, and in new growth when 10% of the tips show signs of injury. Alfalfa weevil larvae are expected to feed for another week or so, then pupate and emerge as adults around at 814 GDD (base 48°F). Be on the lookout for injury to second crop hay until that point is reached.

**Meadow spittlebug** - Most nymphs in south central and southwestern Wisconsin alfalfa fields have reached maturity. Accordingly, numbers of spittle masses are slowly beginning to decline as the nymphs develop into adults. The brown, wedge-shaped adults should begin emerging next week and will remain active throughout the summer. Only one generation of meadow spittlebugs occurs in Wisconsin each season. No damaging populations of spittlebug nymphs were observed during surveys in May and early June.

## Corn

**European corn borer** - First generation eggs have begun to hatch in southern Wisconsin and newly-emerged larvae are feeding in corn plants. The most noticeable signs of corn borer larval feeding are the very small, usually round holes in whorl leaves with a distinctive “windowpaning” effect. This pattern develops when tiny larvae feed deep inside the whorl but do not chew completely through the leaf, leaving behind a clear, thin layer of leaf tissue. As corn borer larvae grow larger they eventually chew entirely through the leaf, but for the next week or two expect to see corn leaves with “windowpaning.” All other corn caterpillars present at this time of year cause different types feeding injury. Armyworms, for instance, feed on the leaf margins giving the leaves a notched appearance, and their frass (feces), which accumulates, in the whorl is usually very evident.



Feeding injury by first instar European corn borer Krista Hamilton DATCP

At the same time first generation larvae are beginning to feed in corn whorls, counts of moths are increasing at black light trapping sites. Counts this week ranged from 1 to 63 moths. Once 800 GDD (base 50°F) are reached by early next week, the treatment window for first generation corn borer will open in parts of the south. Scout for first generation corn borers by examining five sets of 20 plants throughout a field. Look for egg masses on the undersides of leaves along the midrib (see image below) and recent leaf feeding in the whorl, particularly the windowpaning effect described above. Unfold at least two of the infested plants and count the number of larvae inside. Be sure to unroll the leaves very carefully as the larvae are very small and sometimes difficult to see (they are white with black heads and are smaller than a gnat). Record the number of infested plants and the number of larvae found in the two infested whorls. Refer to the UWEX Publication No. A1220, European Corn Borer, at <http://learningstore.uwex.edu/pdf%5CA1220.pdf> for control recommendations.



European corn borer egg mass

Krista Hamilton DATCP

**True armyworm** - A full-grown true armyworm caterpillar was collected and photographed while crossing a Dane County roadway earlier in the week. This find suggests first generation caterpillars, the offspring of moths that arrived last month, have begun to pupate. Increased captures of armyworm moths at several black light trapping sites substantiate this observation.

Corn and small grains fields that lodged during severe storms this week should be checked for armyworm activity. True armyworm larvae are yellowish-brown to dark green with a tan or light brown head and measure 1½ -2 inches in length when fully grown. Larvae have a prominent, dark longitudinal stripe running along each side and another yellow stripe beneath.

When scouting for armyworm in corn, select five locations in a field and examine 20 plants. Record the number of larvae found on each plant. Using the data from all five locations, record the percent of plants with two or more larvae AND the percent of plants with one larva. Measures to control armyworm feeding should be taken when there are two or more larvae at 3/4" or smaller on 25% of the plants OR there is one or more armyworm per plant on

75% of the plants. Consider spot treatment if infestations appear to be limited to certain areas.



True armyworm larva

Krista Hamilton DATCP

In small grains, scout lodged areas by shaking the plants to look for larvae. If armyworms are detected, sample five separate areas in the field and record the average number of larvae per square foot. See UWEX Publication No. A3646, Pest Management in Wisconsin Field Crops, at <http://learningstore.uwex.edu> for treatment recommendations. In the week ahead, crop advisors and consultants are encouraged to spend time surveying wheat, oats, and corn fields for armyworm.

**Western bean cutworm** - Later this month the first western bean cutworm moths of 2007 are expected to begin emerging. In anticipation of the first flight of moths, milk jug traps will be placed at about 120 sites in the western half of the state, as far north as Chippewa Falls. DATCP survey specialists along with numerous volunteers will be monitoring traps baited with a pheromone lure specific to the Western Bean Cutworm (WBCW). Look for weekly WBCW trap counts in future issues of the Wisconsin Pest Bulletin. Anyone interested in setting and monitoring a milk jug trap from late June to late August should call Krista Hamilton at 1-866-440-7523 or email [krista.hamilton@datcp.state.wi.us](mailto:krista.hamilton@datcp.state.wi.us) and leave a name, address and telephone number.

## Soybeans

**Bean leaf beetle** - Surveys this week found minimal numbers of overwintered bean leaf beetles in the few remaining first crop alfalfa fields sampled in the west central and east central regions of the state. As the annual survey nears completion, it appears that bean leaf beetles successfully overwintered farther north than in any previous year of survey, but in very low numbers. To date (June 7, 2007), DATCP survey specialists have collected a total of 522 bean leaf beetles from 88 of 157 (56%) first crop alfalfa fields checked as part of the annual spring survey. These numbers represent a significant increase over the 171 beetles collected during in 2006. In the west central region, beetles were detected in just three of the 26



fields surveyed this week. Survey specialists swept beetles from one of three Jackson County fields, one of four Buffalo County fields, and one of three Trempealeau County fields. No beetles were found in the fields checked in Eau Claire, La Crosse and Pepin counties. In the east central region, beetles were collected from four of 24 fields checked. Bean leaf beetles were found in one of three Calumet County fields, two of five Manitowoc County fields, and one of two Outagamie County fields. No beetles were detected in Brown, Door, Kewaunee, Sheboygan, Portage, Waupaca or Winnebago County fields.

In addition to surveying for overwintered beetle in alfalfa, survey specialists have begun scouting V1-V2 soybean fields for evidence of bean leaf beetle activity. Preliminary survey show levels of defoliation are highly variable, and exceed the economic threshold of 30% in a small percentage of south central and southeastern fields. Levels of defoliation in Dane County ranged from 0-41% and averaged 18%. Defoliation in Jefferson County ranged from 8-28% and averaged 17%. In the Rock and Sauk County soybean fields checked, defoliation ranged from 2-45% and averaged 22% and 9%, respectively. The highest levels of defoliation observed this week were in Walworth County, where 17-95% defoliation (averaging 52%) was noted in seven fields examined. It is strongly recommended that soybean fields be monitored closely in the next few weeks, as the bean leaf beetle pressure intensifies and soybean aphid densities increase.



Light bean leaf beetle feeding injury

Krista Hamilton DATCP

**Soybean aphid** - Although soybean aphids are active earlier than ever this season, colonization of soybean fields is occurring relatively slowly for now. Surveys earlier in the week detected aphids in just three of 38 fields (7.9%) surveyed in the south central, southeast and north central districts. In the Rock County fields examined, 5% of the plants in one of eight V1-V2 fields were colonized with up to 14 alates and nymphs per plant. Two of seven Walworth County soybean fields also had 5% infestations, with the highest number of aphids per plant being 32. In contrast, soybean aphids were not detected in 23 of the Dane, Jefferson, Marathon, Sauk and Wood County fields surveyed this week.

It is still far too early to tell if the early appearance of aphids will translate into higher densities and increased damage this season. Soybean growers are urged to monitor aphid build-up later this month and throughout July, and avoid spraying fields until aphid densities exceed the action threshold of 250 aphids per plant while populations are actively increasing. For 2007 soybean aphid management recommendations, visit the UW Soybean Plant Health site on the Web.



Soybean aphids on underside of soybean leaf

news.ans.purdue.edu

## Weeds

Cow parsnip and wild parsnip plants continue to increase in size along roadsides, near creeks, and throughout forests in southern Wisconsin. These two species, both members of the carrot family Apiaceae, appear quite similar from a distance. Upon closer inspection, differences in leaf shape and flower color are apparent. The most obvious difference is flower color; the umbel-shaped flower of cow parsnip is white and the wild parsnip flower is yellow.



Wild Parsnip

counties.cce.cornell.edu

Special care should be taken to avoid contact with the sap of these plants. Chemicals contained in the stems, leaves and seeds are phototoxic, and burn or irritate skin that is

exposed to ultraviolet light. A parsnip burn will often leave brownish pigmentation that persists for years after the affected area has healed. Simply brushing up against the leaves of wild parsnip is enough to cause burns on the skin, while more abrasive contact with cow parsnip is needed for dermatitis to occur. Parsnip plants may be controlled by cutting the roots 1-2" below ground level and removing the plant, by pulling plants prior to seeds ripening, by mowing when plants are flowering, or by using herbicides.

**Weeds in row crops** - Some Roundup Ready fields show heavy pressure from weeds that were present at planting. Among the most common weed species observed in southwest Wisconsin corn and soybeans this week, were lambsquarters (4-6"), velvetleaf (4"), pigweed species (6"+) and several grasses. Less common in abundance were cow parsnip (20") and bull thistle (14-16").

## Fruit

**Codling moth** - Trap counts this week indicate high levels of codling moths are still active in orchards statewide. Pheromone trap captures ranged from 0-63 moths for the period June 1 to 8, and above-threshold moth captures were recorded at 12 of 32 (38%) reporting orchards. As a reminder, a capture of five or more moths per trap in a week's time warrants control measures. If only one of several traps exceeds the action threshold, spot treating the problem area should be sufficient.

**Plum curculio** - Recent high temperatures have favored plum curculio movement into orchards as well as increased feeding activity. Growers are advised to continue scouting in the week ahead to assess the need for plum curculio control. Spray applications should be timed to prevent egg laying and may be warranted when 0.5-1% fruit injury is detected.

**Obliquebanded leafroller** - The first flight of the season is still in progress in the southern two-thirds of the state where trap counts ranged from 0-19 moths. The highest OBLR counts this week were registered near Dodgeville in Iowa County and near West Madison in Dane County. Unfortunately there is no action threshold based solely on trap counts. Apple growers will need to scout for OBLR larvae to determine if an insecticide spray is justified.

**Apple maggot** - Red ball traps and yellow sticky boards should be placed next week in anticipation of the emergence of apple maggot flies. Both are visual traps that attract apple maggot flies based on coloration. The red ball mimics a ripening apple and attracts mated female flies preparing to lay eggs. The yellow sticky board mimics apple leaves. The key to using visual traps effectively is to place them in the outer canopy or an edge row where they are visible to passing flies. Trap catches can be used directly to time sprays. When one maggot fly is caught per unbaited red ball trap in a week's time, treatment is justified. The threshold increases to five flies per trap when using baited red ball traps. Because there are a few

similar species of fruit flies that occur in Wisconsin, be sure to closely examine the wing banding pattern to separate the apple maggot from other fruit flies. Emergence should be expected at 900 GDD (base 50°F).

**Rosy apple aphid** - The maximum period of reproduction by rosy apple aphids is underway in Fond du Lac County orchards. High densities of this pest, the most serious of five aphid species attacking Wisconsin apples, usually arise when young fruits are beginning to set and start active growth during the last week of May or first week of June. Severe infestations may cause up to 50% of fruits to be injured. Interestingly, the primary, overwintering host is apple while the secondary, summer host is the introduced weed species, narrowleaf plantain. Insecticide sprays applied at petal fall should have effectively reduced aphid colonies and injury. However, any rosy apple aphids present at this point in the season are likely to cause fruit injury. Expect most of these aphids to disperse to the secondary host by early to mid-July.



Rosy apple aphid injury to apple leaves

[www.plant-doktor.dk](http://www.plant-doktor.dk)

## Vegetables

**Cabbage looper** - Pheromone trapping for cabbage looper adults has begun in some locations around the state. Monitoring cabbage looper moths is used to track the arrival of moths, peak activity of the first and second flights, and to determine when it is time to scout for the damaging larvae. Larvae feed for 2-4 weeks on cole crops such as cabbage, broccoli and cauliflower, as well as tomato and snap beans. The larvae are pale green with white, longitudinal stripes running along the back and sides. As their name suggests, the larvae move by arching or "looping" their bodies. Adult cabbage looper moths have forewings mottled with two shades of gray and blackish zigzag stripes and an ivory, y-shaped mark. As of June 7, a small number of moths had been caught at a monitoring site in Bourbonnais, Illinois, approximately one hour south of Chicago.

**Common asparagus beetle** - Adults of this species, *Crioceris duodecimpunctata*, were observed on asparagus in eastern Dane County in the past week. Spotted



asparagus beetles emerge somewhat later in the spring than the common asparagus beetle, *Crioceris asparagi*, and are usually not considered to be economically important pests of asparagus. Spotted asparagus beetles feed for 10-14 days on the fruits, but do not damage the spears and ferns like *Crioceris asparagi*. Treatment of this annual pest is seldom, if ever, warranted.



Spotted asparagus beetle

[www.richard-seaman.com](http://www.richard-seaman.com)

## Nursery, Forest and Landscape

**Aphids** - Unidentified aphids, perhaps the species *Periphyllus lyropictus*, were found by DATCP nursery inspectors on Norway maple in Jefferson County this week. A wide assortment of aphids occurs throughout the state on numerous different host plants. Plants in the Compositae, Coniferae, and Rosaceae support the greatest diversity of aphid species. Of the approximately 1,350 aphid species occur in North America, only a relatively small percentage of these are considered pests.

Aphids (Hemiptera: Aphididae) are pear-shaped, soft-bodied insects with piercing-sucking mouthparts. They feed on the sap of plants causing several recognizable symptoms such as reduced plant vigor, stunting and leaf deformation. Aphids also excrete a sugary substance called honeydew, which attracts ants and promotes the growth of sooty mold fungus.

The life cycles of different species of aphid vary greatly. Generally, aphids overwinter as eggs on a perennial host. In the springtime, the eggs hatch, aphids colonize a preferred spring host, and wingless female aphids give birth to generations of live female nymphs without ever having mated (a process known as parthenogenesis). This adaptation enables populations to build rapidly. Once aphid colonies have grown too dense, food supplies are exhausted, or hosts become overcrowded, winged females develop and migrate to alternate hosts. In late summer, males are produced in order to mate with the females, which lay fertilized eggs capable of overwintering.

Many beneficial insects prey on aphids, including ladybeetle adults and larvae, green lacewing larvae,

syrphid fly larvae, and several parasitic wasps. Insecticidal control of aphids is usually discouraged since these beneficial species will be adversely impacted. High pressure water sprays may be used to remove aphids from affected plants, and insecticides may be used when economic populations develop. However, some aphid species have shown resistance to insecticides, so be sure effective chemistries are selected.

**Other nursery inspection finds this week include:**

**Southwest region:** Nutrient deficiency on 'Da Zong Zi' tree peony, fletchers scale on yew, botrytis on 'Katherine Adele' geranium, virus on 'Samobor' geranium and bellflower, needleminer on arborvitae, broom rust on dwarf Norway spruce, nipple gall on hackberry, and powdery mildew on 'Sunny Sister' maple in Dane County.

**Southeast region:** Leafhoppers on honeylocust, scab on crabapple and euonymus caterpillar on *Euonymus elatus* in Dodge County.

Black spot on New Zealand rose, bronze birch borer on whitespire birch, aphids on Norway maple, roses, and lupine, anthracnose on swamp white oak, and leaf scorch on river birch in Jefferson County.

Shothole on purple leaf sand cherry, septoria on yellow leaf barberry, botrytis on New Guinea impatiens, leaf streak on daylily, leaf spot on petunia, drought stress on 'Wine & Rose' weigela, anthracnose on hosta and rust on daylily in Milwaukee County.

Black spot and powdery mildew on rose, botrytis on geranium and septoria on 'Gold Flame' spirea, Xanthomonas on zinnia, botrytis on geranium and petunia, anthracnose on hosta, septoria on spirea and Tobacco Rattle virus (TRV) on bleeding heart in Racine County.

Black spot on container and tree rose, anthracnose on daylily, leaf scorch on 'Magic Carpet' spires, leafhoppers on northern catalpa, mechanical damage on climbing roses, and chlorosis on tall phlox in Washington County.

**West central region:** Powdery mildew and black spot on roses, septoria on spirea, fletchers scale on yew and webworm on alpine currant in Sauk County.

## Emerald Ash Borer

**Emerald ash borer update** - The EAB tree peeling effort for the 2006-2007 season came to an end on May 25. The tree chipping season continues, with approximately 100 trees left to chip and treat. Girdling efforts will also continue until about June 15, with the goal of establishing 1,500 girdled trees for next season.

The final tree count for cooperative sampling (trees sampled with the help of municipal foresters or other divisions) is 643 trees, 471 with cities or villages, 112 in county parks and 60 with the DNR or Waste Management.

Twenty-four municipalities and three county park systems cooperated in providing trees, many also cooperating with tree felling and cleanup.

Throughout the summer months, DATCP staff will continue to mark trees for future use, network with municipal foresters and arborists, and make site visits to suspect trees identified through calls from the public to the EAB Hotline. Several exercises are being considered for the summer, to test response preparations. Presentations for stakeholders and the public will continue as opportunities arise.

## Gypsy Moth

**Gypsy moth trapping program** - As of this week, gypsy moth trappers have set 12,167 traps, or 38% of the expected total for the 2007 season. Trap setting will continue for the next three to four weeks. All traps should be deployed by the first week of July, in advance of the earliest emerging gypsy moths. Moth flight is expected to begin in the southern part of the state during the first or second week of July. In the northern part of the state moths are likely to start flying one week to 10 days later.

**Gypsy moth spray program** - Postcards notifying the public about gypsy moth pheromone flake spraying were mailed this week. Residents living in or near treatment sites should receive a postcard by Saturday. Flake treatment is scheduled to begin in mid-June in southern Wisconsin and move northward into July or early August.

For more information on either the gypsy moth trapping or spraying programs, please call the Gypsy Moth Hotline at 1-800-642-MOTH or visit the Website [gypsymoth.wi.gov](http://gypsymoth.wi.gov). Readers also can go to the DATCP Website at [www.datcp.state.wi.us/index.jsp](http://www.datcp.state.wi.us/index.jsp) and click on "Gypsy Moth Spraying" under the Agency Topics heading for more information on spraying activities.

## Exotic Pest of the Week

**Japanese stilt grass** - *Microstegium vimineum* is an annual grass that threatens to invade Wisconsin river and stream corridors as well as floodplains, forest wetlands and woodlands. Prolific seed production and high tolerance to both sunny and shade conditions make *Microstegium* a highly invasive plant. In states with high deer populations, such as Wisconsin, forested environments are at even greater risk of introduction and establishment because deer typically avoid eating stilt grass but browse on most other species growing around it.

While this exotic species has not been found in Wisconsin, it has been reported in 25 states in the U.S. This includes states as close by as the Indiana and Kentucky. The native range includes eastern and central parts of Asia. Introduction is thought to have occurred in the early 1900s when stilt grass was used as packing material during shipping.

The stems of Japanese stilt grass are relatively hairless and resemble a smaller version of bamboo. Plants grow 1-2 feet tall, have alternate, pale green, lance-shaped leaves, and flower in late summer to early fall.



Japanese stilt grass

[www.jpaw.org](http://www.jpaw.org)



Japanese stilt grass

Elizabeth Czarapata

## Black Light Trap Counts through June 8

	ECB <sup>1</sup>	TA <sup>2</sup>	BCW <sup>3</sup>	SCW <sup>4</sup>	DCW <sup>5</sup>	CE <sup>7</sup>
<b>Southwest</b>						
Lancaster	6	41	1	5	0	0
<b>South central</b>						
Arlington	18	11	0	2	0	0
<b>Southeast</b>						
Janesville	3	4	0	0	0	0
East Troy	32	6	0	0	2	0
<b>West central</b>						
Sparta	63	17	0	4	0	0
Chippewa Falls	1	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Central</b>						
Wausau	1	19	0	3	2	0
Marshfield	12	70	1	9	0	0
<b>East Central</b>						
Manitowoc	2	58	2	11	0	0

<sup>1</sup> European Corn Borer; <sup>2</sup> True Armyworm; <sup>3</sup> Black Cutworm; <sup>4</sup> Spotted Cutworm; <sup>5</sup> Dingy Cutworm; <sup>7</sup> Corn Earworm.



## Apple Insect Trap Counts from June 1 to June 8, 2007

County	Site	Date	STLM <sup>1</sup>	RBLR <sup>2</sup>	CM <sup>3</sup>	OBLR <sup>4</sup>
Bayfield	Erickson	6/01-6/07	1220	0	2	0
Bayfield	Gellerman	5/29-6/03	17	0	0	0
Bayfield	Lobermeier	6/01-6/07	13	6	0	0
Bayfield	Bayfield Apple	6/01-6/07	44	0	1	0
Bayfield	Bayfield Apple	6/01-6/07	176	0	4	0
Brown	Oneida	6/01-6/07	11	0	7	0
Crawford	Gays Mills E	6/01-6/07	15	0	63	0
Crawford	Turkey Ridge	6/01-6/07	36	0	42	8
Dane	Deerfield	5/31-6/07	23	0	5	2
Dane	Stoughton	6/01-6/07	20	16	14	9
Dane	West Madison	6/01-6/07	27	0	7	12
Dodge	Brownsville	6/01-6/07	0	0	6	2.5
Fond du Lac	Campbellsport 1	6/01-6/07	0	0	0	0
Fond du Lac	Campbellsport 2	6/01-6/07	0	0	0	0
Fond du Lac	Rosendale	6/01-6/07	11	4	2	0
Fond du Lac	Malone	6/01-6/07	5	0	0.3	1
Green	Brodhead	6/01-6/07	0	0	0	5
Iowa	Dodgeville	6/01-6/07	53	0	32	19
Iowa	Mineral Point	6/01-6/07	0	0	1	0
Jackson	Hixton	6/01-6/07	15	0	1	3
Kenosha	Burlington	6/01-6/08	20	0	1.5	1
Marquette	Montello	5/28-6/03	5	0	1	2
Marinette	Wausaukee	6/01-6/07	33	0	14	0
Ozaukee	Mequon	5/31-6/06	0	0	0.7	1.5
Pierce	Beldenville	6/01-6/07	0	2	20	4
Pierce	Spring Valley	6/01-6/07	14	2	5	12
Racine	Rochester	6/01-6/07	0	0	5.1	6
Racine	Raymond	6/01-6/07	15	1	1	5
Richland	Hill Point	5/31-6/07	6	0	5	8
Richland	Richland Ctr E	6/01-6/07	90	0	4	1
Richland	Richland Ctr W	6/01-6/07	320	5	3	2
Sauk	Baraboo	6/01-6/07	22	9	2	0
Waukesha	New Berlin	6/01-6/07	268	0	1	4

<sup>1</sup> Spotted tentiform leafminer; <sup>2</sup> Redbanded leafroller; <sup>3</sup> Codling moth; <sup>4</sup> Obliquebanded leafroller.



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**EXOTIC PEST OF THE WEEK**

Japanese stilt grass, *Microstegium vimineum*