Insect Report

WTT's compilation of insect problems occurring in turfgrasses, trees, and ornamentals throughout the country.

Turf Insects

AN ARMORED SCALE

(Odonaspis ruthae)

Florida: All stages light to severe on Bermuda grass on golf courses at Clearwater and Largo, Pinellas County; controls needed.

RHODES-GRASS SCALE

(Antonina graminis)

Florida: All stages light to severe on St. Augustine grass, Bermuda grass, and crabgrass on golf courses at Clearwater and Largo, Pinellas County; controls needed.

A JAPANESE WEEVIL

(Calomycterus setarius)

Pennsylvania: Severely damaged 10 acres of crownvetch seedlings in Centre County; first record of economic damage in State.

Insects of Ornamentals

AZALEA CATERPILLAR

(Datana major)

Alabama: Larvae heavy on azaleas at homes in Escambia and Hale Counties; some shrubs partially defoliated.

ROSE LEAFHOPPER

(Edwardsiana rosae)

Colorado: Damaged 25 percent of rose foliage in Montrose County.

FLORIDA RED SCALE

(Chrysomphalus aonidum)

Florida: Severe on 120 coontie plants *(Zamia floridana)* in nursery at Tampa, Hillsborough County.

HEMISPHERICAL SCALE

(Saissetia coffeae)

Florida: Infested 120 coontie plants *(Zamia floridana)* in nursery at Tampa, Hillsborough County.

A THRIPS

(Monilothrips kempi)

California: Damage severe to ferns in store in Guerneville, Sonoma County.

Tree Insects

APHIDS

New Jersey: *Prociphilus imbricator* infesting Monmouth County beech; heavy on lower branches. *Lachnus salignus* common on willows in central counties. **Maryland:** *L. Salignus* heavy on weeping willows in Allegany and Prince Georges Counties. **Arkansas:** *Drepanaphis acerifoliae* active, up to 50 per leaf on maple in Fayetteville area, Washington County. **Utah:** *Periphyllus lyropictus* increasing in Logan, Cache County.

ELM LEAF BEETLE

(Pyrrhalta luteola)

Oregon: Damage to elms more serious than in previous years, especially in eastern area. **Oklahoma:** Damage moderate to heavy on elms in Major and Woodward Counties. **Maryland:** Heavy on American elm at Harman, Anne Arundel County.

YELLOW-NECKED CATERPILLAR

(Datana ministra)

California: Larvae, probably this species, heavy on cottonwood trees at Hornbrook, Siskiyou County.

EUROPEAN PINE SHOOT MOTH

(Rhyacionia buoliana)

Oregon: On pines at Hermiston, McNary, and Umatilla in Umatilla County for new county record; last infestation in State in May.

SYCAMORE TUSSOCK MOTH

(Halisodota harrisii)

Oklahoma: Heavy on Payne County sycamores.

A TORTRICID MOTH

(Archips rosana)

New Hampshire: Common on Japanese flowering quince June 15 at Exeter, Rockingham County, for new State record.

ORANGE-STRIPED OAKWORM

(Anisota senatoria)

New Jersey: Heavy along State Highway 72 from junction of State Highway 539 to Fawn Lakes area in Ocean County.

A CONIFER SAWFLY

(Zadiprion sp.)

California: Defoliating pinyon pine in Crystal Lake area and on Sugar Pine Trail of Angeles National Forest.

INTRODUCED PINE SAWFLY

(Diprion similis)

New Hampshire: Larvae very abundant statewide on white pine; damage extensive on ornamental planting.

OYSTERSHELL SCALE

(Lepidosaphes ulmi)

California: Heavy; damaging maple trees at Mt. Hann, Lake County.

MIMOSA WEBWORM

(Homadaula albizziae)

Oklahoma: Defoliated 100 percent of mimosa trees at Wagoner, Wagoner County.

PINE WEBWORM

(Tetralopha robustella)

New Hampshire: Damaging young white pine plantings at Redstone, Carroll County.

Compiled from information furnished by the U. S. Department of Agriculture, university staffs, and WTT readers. Turf and tree specialists are urged to send reports of insect problems noted in their areas to: Insect Reports, WEEDS TREES AND TURF, 1900 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44115.

Trimmings

Well Fed Sea Cows. Sea cows are being used for a canal weed clearing field test by the Southern Florida Flood Control District. Five captured cows (manatees) have been fenced in a section of a weedy canal and their intake is being checked. This may well prove to be a workable project. But we hope chemical companies continue their research and those activities concerned with clearing new chemical compounds for aquatic weed control. We don't know much about sea cow numbers but we can't visualize them as being too much of a threat to the aquatic weed population.

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Miracle Tree? *A warning to Minnesota homeowners to ignore direct mail promotions for a "miracle" tree known as Robinia pseudo-acacia has been sounded by Extension Horticulturist Mrs. Jane McKinnon at the University of Minnesota. She reports it is actually the black locust known for decades in the state and used mostly in erosion control and for fence posts.*

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DED Moving South. Dutch elm disease is moving south according to the Arkansas State Plant Board. Survey crews this year found infected trees in 3 locations, south of previously infected areas, at Marianna, Marvell, and Fort Smith. However, DED did not take the jump predicted in previously infected areas. Based on infections in earlier years, the Plant Board expected 100 infected trees in the twin cities of Little Rock and North Little Rock. Good news is that only 4 trees were lost in '67.

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Turf Business Even Big For Texans. A Texas A&M University research and education program is aimed at helping the current "big business" of turfgrass maintenance in the state. Maintenance costs of the industry are now estimated at $211 million yearly. The University's new 3-point program consists of research, student instruction, and adult education in turfgrass.

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Alaska Bound Sod. Sod can't be purchased in Alaska, so Walter O. Kraft ordered sod for the front lawn of his new home at Kodiak, Alaska, from Seattle. The 6000 square feet needed was shipped on a sea going vessel and kept cooled to 33°F for the 5-day trip.

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Sod Harvester Is Perfected. Princeton Turf Farms sod harvester is in production. Harvesting capacity is about 10,000 feet per hour, utilizing 3 men. Practical maximum for 10-hour day is closer to 7000 feet per hour because of physical capacity of men to handle sod and pallets. Pallets carry 1500 to 4000 pounds of sod, depending on moisture conditions of the sod being harvested. In a visit to Princeton's plant last month we saw 10 harvesters under construction. Lynn Johnson, Princeton engineer, estimates present shop crew can turn out 10 machines in about 2 months.