

# Insect Report

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

## Turf Insects

### A BILLBUG

(*Sphenophorus venatus vestitus*)

**California:** Medium in hybrid Bermudagrass in nursery at Bellflower and heavy in tifgreen Bermudagrass in golf course at Pasadena, Los Angeles County. Found on Bermudagrass at Huntington Beach and Fullerton, Orange County, for a new county record.

### GRANULATE CUTWORM

(*Feltia subterranea*)

**California:** Medium to heavy in lawns at Gilroy, Santa Clara County. Worm weather and moisture favored continuation of infestation this season.

### A MARCH FLY

(*Dilophus orbatus*)

**California:** Populations continuing in many locations statewide. Heavy in turf at Oakland, Alameda County, and in lawns of Stanislaus County.

### THREE-CORNERED ALFALFA HOPPER

(*Spissistilus festinus*)

**Arizona:** Heavy numbers overwintering in ditch banks next to Bermudagrass seed fields at Yuma, Yuma County.

### BERMUDAGRASS MITE

(*Aceria neocynodonis*)

**California:** Adults heavy in Bermudagrass at Irvine, Orange County.

### RHODES-GRASS SCALE

(*Antonina graminis*)

**California:** Adults medium on Bermudagrass in nursery at San Diego, San Diego County.

## Insects of Ornamentals

### AN APHID

(*Euceraphis mucida*)

**Maryland:** One specimen found at Monkton, Baltimore County. This is a new state record.

### ENGRAVER BEETLES

(*Ips* spp.)

**Virginia:** Killed 20 loblolly pines at Accomack County location and 3-4 trees in each of 3 Caroline County locations.

### A SAP BEETLE

(*Conotelus mexicanus*)

**California:** Found in rose at Orosi, Tulare County, for a new county record.

### FALL CANKERWORM

(*Alsophila pometaria*)

**Michigan:** Males abundant at Livingston County blacklight station. Females on tree trunks and farm out-buildings during day.

### AN EPIPASCHIID MOTH

(*Tetralopha asperatella*)

**Maryland:** Collected from oak near

Sudlersville, Queen Annes County. This is a new county record.

### A GELECHIID MOTH

(*Coleotechnites thujaella*)

**Maryland:** Heavily damaged a planting of arborvitae at Easton, Talbot County. This is a new State record.

### NANTUCKET PINE TIP MOTH

(*Rhyacionia frustrana*)

**Virginia:** Damage heavy to young loblolly pine throughout Hanover County. Severe on loblolly pine at location in Alleghany County. None at 2 plantations in Rockingham County.

### A WALSHIID MOTH

(*Periploca nigra*)

**California:** Light on juniper at Fresno County, and medium at Redding area, Shasta County. These are new county records.

### AN ARMORED SCALE

(*Phenacaspis cockerelli*)

**Florida:** All stages severe on all 3 Chinese fanpalm (*Livistona chinensis*) in nursery at Keystone Heights, Clay County. This is a new Florida Department of Plant Industry host record.

### FLORIDA RED SCALE

(*Chrysomphalus aonidum*)

**Florida:** All stages severely infesting 50 philodendrons in nursery at Lockhard, Orange County. This is a new Florida Department of Plant Industry host record.

### A WEEVIL

(*Nemocestes incomptus*)

**California:** Adults heavy in rhododendron nursery stock at Fort Bragg, Mendocino County.

## Tree Insects

### GIANT BARK APHID

(*Longistigma caryae*)

**Oklahoma:** Heavy on scattered post oak and blackjack oak trees in Oklahoma County. Ranged up to several hundred per cluster on small branches.

### CERAMBYCID BEETLES

**Texas:** *Oncideres pustulatus* caused much damage to minosa trees at Houston, Harris County. Many *Megacyllene robiniae* adults on mesquite trees in Throckmorton County.

### BRONZE BIRCH BORER

(*Agrilus anxius*)

**Minnesota:** Generally counts in nursery-grown birch trees remain about same as last year. Infested average of 2 percent of trees. State average increased by infestations up to 10 percent in isolated fields.

### EUROPEAN ELM SCALE

(*Gossyparia spuria*)

**New Mexico:** Heavy on American elm at Santa Fe, Santa Fe 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, 9800 Detroit Ave., Cleveland, Ohio 44102.

## Trimmings

**Winter Golf?** Visited with Ken Vorhies of the Columbine Country Club a couple of days before Thanksgiving regarding his record system which is featured in this issue of WTT. He told me that his crews were busy mowing greens and that he had watered the day before. Said that play was heavy and that more people should become interested in winter golf in the Denver area. Sounded much better than the Cleveland weather of the moment.

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**The Toronto Daily Star** recently revealed that 1,834 elms stricken by Dutch elm disease will have to be removed from parks, streets and private property in the Toronto area next year — 61 percent more than this year. But who's to pick up the tab? The provincial and Federal governments recently refused to subsidize the tree removal program, according to the newspaper. In the past the dead elms were disposed of under the now-defunct winter works program, with the senior governments paying about half the cost.

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**On the other side of the coin** is Milwaukee. This city recently discovered a way to dispose of logs from trees killed by Dutch elm disease, reduce air pollution and make a profit — all at the same time. Froebel Wood Exports, Glendale, will buy the logs from the city, strip the infested bark — which contains the beetles — and export the wood to Holland, where it will probably be used for manufacturing furniture. Currently the city absorbs the cost of transporting the logs to a dump site where they are burned, adding to the area's air pollution problem. Froebel has agreed to pick up the logs at the cutting sites and pay the city \$1 to \$2 a log, according to size.

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**Speaking of Dutch elm disease** and Milwaukee shipping logs from trees killed by same to Holland, someone is bound to retort that the Dutch are only getting back what they started in the first place. But let's set the record straight. The disease was so named because Dutch plant pathologists were the first to study it. No one is sure where the elm-killing disease originated, although Asia would be a good bet because resistant-type elms are found there. The disease appeared simultaneously in Holland, France and Belgium at the end of World War I and then spread to the States in 1930 via Carpathian elm burl from France.