








*Simple steps you can take to protect your stock from a gypsy moth infestation:*

-  Be aware of what regions of the U.S. are under quarantine for gypsy moth.
-  Be certain to list all out-of-state stock sources on your nursery certificate application form.
-  Verify that all stock received from quarantined regions arrive with proper certification.
-  If possible, isolate stock received from quarantined areas from other stock on your premises.
-  Train your staff to recognize gypsy moth life stages. Inspect all stock you receive to verify that it is free of gypsy moth.
-  Contact MDA immediately if you find any gypsy moth life stages.
-  Consider conducting precautionary treatments of high risk stock from April-June.

*For more information on gypsy moth:*

**Contact**

MINNESOTA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
Invasive Species Unit  
90 West Plato Blvd.  
St. Paul, MN 55107

**Call**

GYPSY MOTH PROGRAM COORDINATOR  
651-296-6692

**ARREST THE PEST HOTLINE**

651-296-6684 (metro)  
1-888-545-6684 (greater Minnesota)

**Online**

[www.mda.state.mn.us](http://www.mda.state.mn.us)



For information on federal guidelines and quarantines contact: USDA, Animal & Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine

Gypsy moth adult female with egg mass; egg masses can contain 100 to 1,000 viable eggs



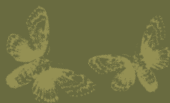
Early-instar gypsy moth caterpillars emerging from egg mass



Late-instar gypsy moth caterpillar with five pairs of blue spots and six pairs of rusty red spots



Gypsy moth pupae (cocoons); inactive stage during which the caterpillar changes into an adult moth



Images supplied by MDA, USDA, VT Department of Forests, Parks and Recreation

# Quarantine Pest Alert

## Gypsy Moth



How to protect your nursery stock from this devastating pest

## What is gypsy moth?

Gypsy moth is one of the most serious forest pests in the United States. It is a European insect that as a caterpillar can feed on more than 300 tree and shrub species.

Millions of acres of trees are defoliated each year by this pest. Multiple years of defoliation can stress trees, leaving them vulnerable to other pests and diseases, leading to tree mortality.

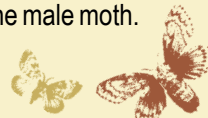


## Why trap for gypsy moth?

Early detection and eradication of isolated populations is the goal in keeping Minnesota free of gypsy moth for as long as possible. This eliminates the need for additional regulations and costs associated with the management of the insect. The spread of gypsy moth from infested to non-infested areas is linked to movement of certain high-risk articles such as nursery stock, logs, firewood, and outdoor household articles. This artificial movement of gypsy moth occurs when material with gypsy moth egg masses or other life stages attached is transported. An individual egg mass can produce as many as 1,000 caterpillars, potentially starting a new infestation at your place of business. If detected early these small populations can be eradicated.

## What do the traps look like?

Each year the gypsy moth cooperative survey program sets over 16,000 traps across MN to detect this devastating pest. The traps are 5" x 6" tent-shaped cardboard traps that are stapled or tied to trees and poles. Each trap is lined with sticky material and contains a synthetic female sex lure to attract the male moth.



## What can I do to keep Minnesota free of gypsy moth?

Vigilance and careful monitoring are your best safeguards. Be aware of those regions of the U.S. under quarantine and shipments you receive from these regions. Currently there are 19 infested states under the federal gypsy moth quarantine. The closest populations are now in central Wisconsin. For the most up-to-date quarantine information visit <http://ceris.purdue.edu/napis/pests/egm>.



Be sure shipments from quarantined areas arrive with the proper federal gypsy moth-free certification issued by the appropriate regulatory official.

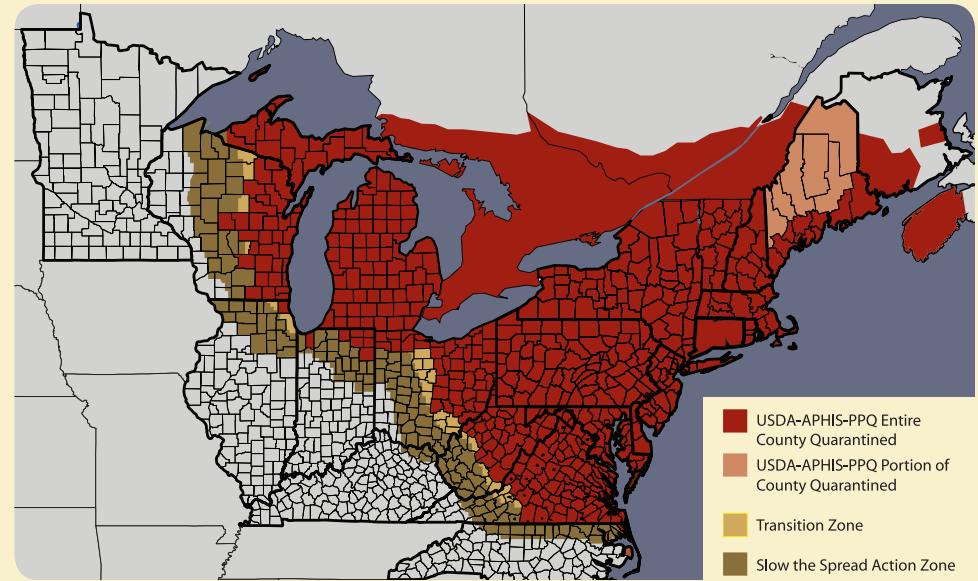
The federal shield should be present on corresponding paperwork.

If stock arrives without proper documentation contact the shipping company and the Minnesota Department of Agriculture immediately. Sometimes the stock is certified but paperwork is lost en route. Documentation does not guarantee the shipment is free of gypsy moth. Keep material from other states isolated in a separate area on your site, if possible. Train your staff to recognize gypsy moth life stages and conduct visual inspections of the stock you receive as soon as possible. Contact MDA if you find any gypsy moth life stages.

Consider conducting annual precautionary treatments of nursery stock you receive from gypsy moth quarantined states from April through June, when caterpillars are active.



## 2003 Gypsy Moth Quarantined Counties



## What happens if MDA finds gypsy moth on my property?

An assessment is conducted based on trap catches and a follow-up visual survey of host material. Infested stock could be held in quarantine and may require treatment before release. Keep in mind that timing of treatment may require quarantine until insects become active. The goal is to decrease the risk of spread to other locations and eradicate the population as soon as possible.

