

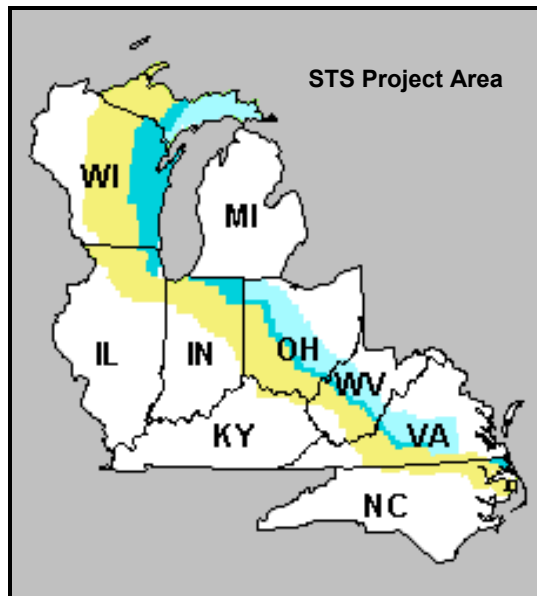


2001 Accomplishments In Slowing the Spread of the Gypsy Moth



Congress funded full implementation of the gypsy moth slow the spread strategy (STS) in fiscal year 2000. The USDA Forest Service and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) expect that integrating STS into the USDA's national gypsy moth management programs will reduce spread rates of this exotic pest at least 50% from historical averages of 13 miles per year. The two USDA agencies along with state partners located along the leading edge of gypsy moth populations cooperatively implement STS. Key highlights from the 2001 season follow.

- The states of Michigan, Wisconsin, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky, Virginia and North Carolina are actively involved in STS. Minnesota and Iowa will likely join the program in the near future.



- A band totaling approximately 56 million acres (yellow shaded area on map) was comprehensively managed during 2001, with an additional 34 million acres (blue shaded areas on map) monitored less intensively to measure the program's effect on spread.
- The nonprofit STS Foundation managed the STS program in 2001. The Board of Directors includes representatives from

North Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin and Michigan. The Foundation provides the states with a formal framework for cooperation and ensures that federal funds are focused and targeted where biologically needed.

- Collectively during 2001 the partner contributions totaled:

Forest Service	\$ 8,000,000
STS Partners	\$ 2,402,786
APHIS	<u>\$ 270,000</u>
TOTAL	\$10,672,786

- The use of mating disruption, a noninsecticidal treatment that is specific to the gypsy moth, has expanded in STS and continues to be critical to protect unique habitats and threatened or endangered species that occur within the project area. Not only is its use increasing but it has also become the most economical of the treatment options. The cost of mating disruption has decreased by 40% as a result of reduced dosages.



Gypsy moth mating disruptant on foliage

- STS program partners detected and delineated more than 100 distinct gypsy moth colonies within the STS area in 2000. Treatments subsequently occurred on 275,973 acres during the spring and summer of 2001. This was an increase of 40% in acres treated when compared to 2000, and the percentage of acres treated using mating disruption increased from 53% to 77%.

STATE	# OF COLONIES MANAGED	ACRES OF TREATMENT	
		Larvicides (Btk or Dimilin)	Mating Disruption
NC	2	0	1,225
VA	17	3,941	63,250
WV	5	0	36,600
OH	6	650	44,200
IN	5	39	1,825
IL	17	5,335	1,400
WI	62	53,083	64,425
TOTAL	114	63,048	212,925

- STS partners contracted individually for the aerial application of Btk but mating disruption treatments were implemented

- using a Forest Service contract that serviced the entire STS project area. The average cost of treatment dropped almost \$5 per acre in 2001 to \$21.30/acre because mating disruption was used on a higher proportion of the treatment acreage.
- STS partners deployed 75,000 pheromone traps during 2001 to evaluate past treatment efficacy and to detect or delineate newly established colonies that may require treatment in 2002. The total cost of monitoring was approximately \$3.54 million or an average of \$47 per trap.
- Centralized data management, GIS and decision support for the STS project cost approximately \$734,000. Models used for decision support were modified to incorporate multiple year's data and to yield recommendations prioritized for action. A special routine was designed to run in ArcView that streamlines project planning and data transfer.
- APHIS funds totaling \$270,000 were used to staff regulatory positions in support of STS.

