

United States Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine

GYPHY MOTH SLOW THE SPREAD REGULATORY
ACTION AND EVALUATION PLAN

In 1992, a gypsy moth (GM) Slow the Spread (STS) Pilot Project was initiated in Michigan, West Virginia, Virginia, and North Carolina, to reduce to the maximum extent possible, the rate of spread of the GM over a large geographical area through comprehensive detection, control, and regulatory efforts. The success of the project's activities translated into taking the program to the national level in 1999.

Regulatory experience and the biology of the gypsy moth support the premise that human movement of infested articles is a major factor in the spread of this pest. Therefore, intensified comprehensive regulatory actions, to ensure compliance in the movement of regulated articles, was made a key component of the STS Program. In FY1999, this enhanced regulatory program expanded across eight States. Currently there are ten states participating in the STS National Program (North Carolina, Virginia, Kentucky, West Virginia, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, and Iowa).

Regulatory officials (APHIS and all States in the STS Program) are responsible for maintaining, within the STS Program area, an active public education/awareness program designed to prevent the artificial movement of GM. In addition, establishments located in the STS action zone which receive regulated articles (section B) are the main focus of this program.

The following regulatory action and evaluation plan outlines activities APHIS conducts, in cooperation with the participating states, in support of the National STS Program.

A. Definitions

1. STS Program area:

The STS Program area is located along the expanding population front on both sides of the 10-moth catch boundary line, beginning approximately 50 km behind the 10-moth boundary line and extending approximately 120 km in front of the line. It is comprised of the STS action and monitoring zones. The STS Program area may, at times, include portions of the regulated area (Fig. 1).

2. Action zone:

A designated STS area that is a band approximately 100 km wide beginning approximately 10 km in front of the 10-moth boundary line and ending where it adjoins the uninfested area. This zone is used for detecting, delineating, and treating isolated GM populations. This is the area where most STS regulatory work is concentrated (Fig. 1).

3. Monitoring zone:

A designated STS area that is a band approximately 70 km wide beginning at the edge of the action zone and extending back towards, and sometimes into, the generally infested area. It includes the approaching population front and is used for delineating the moth boundary lines necessary to set program boundaries and to evaluate the effect of the project on the rate of spread. The width of the monitoring zone is somewhat variable because the distance between the 10 and 30-moth lines is variable along the length of the STS area. (Fig. 1)

4. Regulated area:

Any state or portion thereof that is listed in the Federal GM quarantine 7CFR 301.45 that is designated as generally infested with GM (also known as the "generally-infested" or "quarantine" area) (Fig. 1).

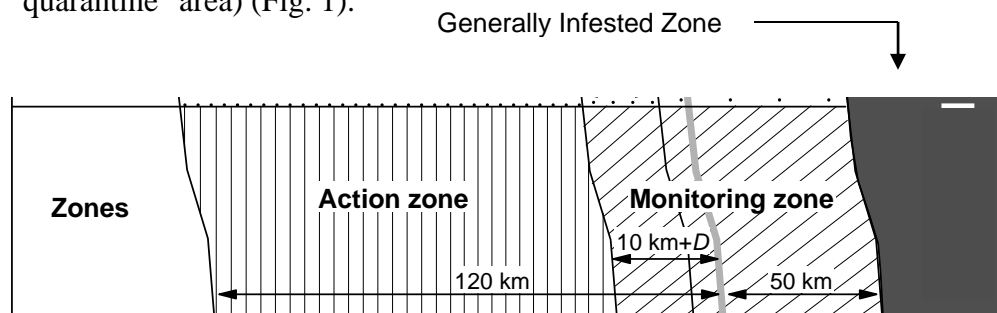


Fig. 1 Description of the STS zones

B. Articles Targeted for Inspection (Regulated Articles)

1. Trees without roots (e.g., Christmas trees), trees with roots, and shrubs with roots and persistent woody stems, unless they are greenhouse grown throughout the year
2. Logs, pulpwood, and bark and bark products
3. Mobile homes and associated equipment
4. Any other products, articles, or means of conveyance, of any character whatsoever, when it is determined by an inspector that any life stage of gypsy moth is in proximity to such articles and the articles present a high risk of artificial spread of gypsy moth infestation and the person in possession thereof has been so notified

C. Regulatory Activities

1. Regulated articles will be subject to intensified monitoring and inspection. Both federal and state authority will be utilized as needed. Regulatory treatments will be applied as needed.
2. Intensive monitoring will be conducted at high risk locations within the STS Program area. Comprehensive listings of high risk businesses will be developed and updated by each state. High risk locations include such places as:
 - a. Campgrounds
 - b. Parks
 - c. Tourist attractions (e.g. outdoor recreation areas)
 - d. Large commercial construction sites (such as malls, housing developments)
 - e. Shipping and receiving companies (carriers such as mobile home haulers, rail, truck and barge)
 - f. Log, timber and lumber processing facilities
 - g. Other high-risk locations
3. Compliance agreements may be utilized to facilitate commerce. Close supervision of agreements is essential.
4. Regulatory activities will be coordinated between involved agencies within the STS areas to avoid overlapping and overlooked information.
5. Transit inspection of vehicles
6. High risk areas will be trapped.

D. Industry and Public Awareness

1. Public awareness programs will be conducted in conjunction with the following groups:
 - a. Forest Service (STS)
 - b. Agricultural extension personnel
 - c. State Forestry personnel
 - d. APHIS' Legislative and Public Affairs personnel
 - e. Other government agencies (encountered within the program area)
 - f. Regulated and high-risk establishments
 - g. Trade groups associated with regulated articles
 - h. News media as appropriate
2. Programs to include:
 - a. Displays and presentations
 - b. Press releases
 - c. Information sheets/handouts

E. Documentation and Evaluation

In the STS Program, inspection of regulated and other targeted articles will be conducted within the STS action zone to determine compliance with regulations and the effectiveness of inspections. In order for APHIS to report on results, a system to track and record the agency's accomplishments needs to be in place. Consistency in data collection and reporting is a must.

1. Data Collection:
 - a. Data will be collected by state and federal cooperators in each state.
 - b. Information will be collected on the online input document (sample attached).
 - c. Information will be summarized quarterly (Oct. 1, Jan. 1, April 1, and July 1) at the state level, to measure the quantity and effectiveness of regulatory and public awareness activities. Summary data will then be transferred into a national database for compilation.
 - d. Descriptions of each data element were developed by the committee members to ensure consistency in reporting. Descriptions can be found at:
www.gmsts.org/files/documentation/regulatory_activities_descriptions.pdf
2. Data Reporting -- This information will help provide the following:
 - a. Percentage of regulated articles found to be in compliance accompanied by certificates, limited permits and OHA documents or other required documentation
 - b. The effectiveness of regulatory inspections and public relations in reducing the spread of GM
 - c. Evidence of how STS public relations efforts increase public awareness of quarantine regulations which in turn result in greater compliance with the GM regulations

Report Virginia Regulatory Activities (Logout)



Inspector: [\(Lookup\)](#)
 Agency: -- Select Agency --
 Month: -- Select Month --
 Notes:

Pulp/Saw Mill/Logger

Inspections	0
Outreach Sessions	0
Literature Distribution	0
Compliance Agreement	0
Violations	0
Trapping	0

Fire Wood

Inspections	0
Outreach Sessions	0
Literature Distribution	0
Compliance Agreement	0
Violations	0
Trapping	0

Campgrounds

Inspections	0
Outreach Sessions	0
Literature Distribution	0
Compliance Agreement	0
Violations	0
Trapping	0

Nurseries/Dealers/Christmas Trees

Inspections	0
Outreach Sessions	0
Literature Distribution	0
Compliance Agreement	0
Violations	0
Trapping	0

Pathways/Movement/Outreach

OHA Inspections	0
Mail Contacts	0
Phone Contacts	0
Personal Contacts	0
Weigh Station Inspections	0
Outreach Sessions	0
Literature Distribution	0
Compliance Agreement	0
Violations	0
Trapping	0

[Continue](#) [Reset](#)