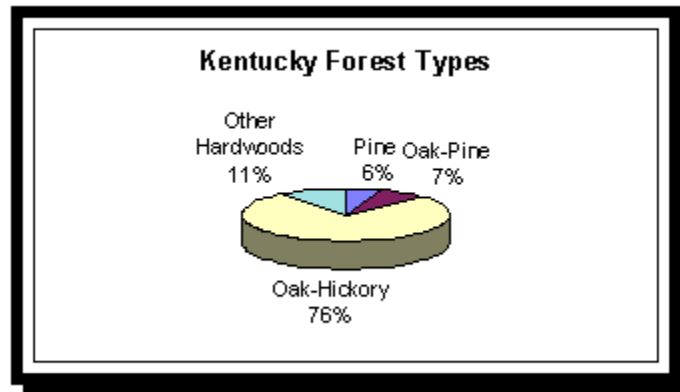


# Forest Health Highlights - 2001

## Kentucky

The Kentucky Division of Forestry provides forest health protection assistance to state and private land managers within the State. The State and the USDA Forest Service Forest Health Protection unit fund this program cooperatively.



### ***Kentucky Forest Facts***

- Almost **1/2** of the entire state of Kentucky is **forested** (more than 12.6 million acres).
- Kentucky's tree species diversity rivals that of the whole European continent.
- Over **90%** of forested acreage in Kentucky is **privately owned**. Small landowners comprise the largest group.
- The **Daniel Boone National Forest** (698,900 acres) provides recreational and wildlife benefits as well as forest products and jobs for thousands of people.
- For the first time in 25 years, beginning in 2000 **southern pine beetle** populations returned to the state in a record setting way. Losses were very significant on the Daniel Boone National Forest where over 100,000 acres of pine stands were killed by the beetle. This severely impacted the habitat for the red-cockaded woodpecker, a federally listed endangered species, eliminating the state's sole remaining colony. Statewide there were over 3,000 infestations in 2001 and 44 counties were in outbreak status.
- **Oak decline** is impacting timber and recreation in Kentucky. Oak decline results in dieback and mortality of the larger mature oaks. Factors such as drought, frost, insect defoliation, and secondary agents such as root disease and wood boring insects all contribute to the disease.
- **Gypsy moth**, a serious pest of hardwood forests, threatens Kentucky from the north and east. The Kentucky Division of Forestry and USDA Forest Service work closely to monitor and quickly respond to outbreaks of the moth through a statewide early warning network of survey traps.
- **Dogwood anthracnose** has struck over a 61 county area in the state. Damage is most severe in the forest environment at higher elevations and in cool moist areas in the lower elevations.
- Since 2000, the Kentucky Division of Forestry in cooperation with USDA Forest Service Research and Forest Health Protection has participated in the **Forest Health Monitoring Program**. This program is designed to annually collect, analyze, interpret, and report on the conditions of the forests in Kentucky.

## The Kentucky Division of Forestry and the USDA Forest Service

In spite of the relatively good health of Kentucky's forests, a variety of insects and diseases (both native and introduced), and human-caused impacts such as air pollution, continue to threaten the State's resources. To deal with this constantly changing mix of challenges, the Kentucky Division of Forestry and the Forest Health Protection unit of the USDA Forest Service cooperate to prevent, detect, suppress and manage this multitude of threats. The partnership between the two agencies has worked for three decades to maintain and improve the health of Kentucky's forests.

***Forest Health Protection contributions (dollars) to the Kentucky Division of Forestry Cooperative Forest Health program, cooperative pest suppression projects and Daniel Boone National Forest pest suppression projects, 1999-2002.***

	1999	2000	2001	2002
<b>Cooperative Forest Health Program</b>	52,000	53,300	50,255	68,737
<b>Forest Health Monitoring</b>	0	51,300	100,000	50,000
<b>Cooperative suppression - southern pine beetle</b>	0	50,000	70,000	0
<b>Daniel Boone National Forest - gypsy moth eradication</b>	0	10,000	2,000	0
<b>Daniel Boone National Forest - southern pine beetle</b>	0	263,000	750,000	120,000

**For additional information, contact:**

Kentucky Division of Forestry  
627 Comanche Trail  
Frankfort, KY 40601-1798  
(502) 564-4496

USDA Forest Service  
Forest Health Protection  
200 WT Weaver Blvd.  
Asheville, NC 28804  
(828) 257-4320