# MARYLAND 2021 FOREST HEALTH HIGHLIGHTS

#### The Resource

Maryland occupies a land area of 6,264,876 acres. Forestland comprises 2,709,062 acres of which nearly 76 percent is privately owned. Healthy, productive forests are critical in urban and rural areas for soil conservation, clean air and water, wildlife habitat, outdoor recreation, and aesthetics. The forest products industry is the largest employer in Allegany and Garrett Counties and the second largest employer on the Eastern Shore.

# Forest Health Monitoring

The Forest Health Monitoring (FHM) Program has two components: plot network and off-plot survey. The USDA Forest Service Northeastern Station Forest Inventory and Analysis Staff administer the plot network in Maryland. The plot network is designed to annually monitor, assess, and report on changes in the long-term condition of trees, soils, lichens, and air quality in forests.

The Maryland Department of Agriculture conducts the off-plot survey component of FHM. The objectives of the FHM Program are delimiting, mapping, and reporting forest pest problems as a supplement to the FHM plot network. Aerial and ground surveys, data collection, and reporting are conducted in accordance with FHM standards for air operations and GIS.

# Office of Plant Industries & Pest Management: FOREST PEST MANAGEMENT

FOREST PEST MONITORING AND SURVEYING

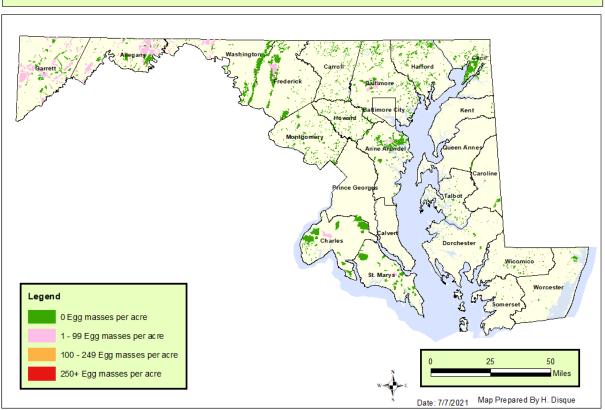
#### Lymantria dispar dispar (Formally known as Gypsy Moth)

Lymantria dispar dispar (Ldd), the insect formally known as gypsy moth, is the most serious threat to oak forests in the United States. The first eggs were detected in Maryland in 1971 and the first extensive defoliation occurred in 1981. Each fall and winter, the department conducts an extensive survey for Ldd egg masses to determine potential areas of defoliation. From August 2020 through March 2021, Maryland Department of Agriculture Forest Pest Management (MDA FPM) personnel conducted Ldd egg mass surveys on 484,389 acres of "high value" forested

lands. High value" forested sites include areas with development, recreational use, managed forest and wildlife resources and other site conditions that render dieback and mortality to be economically and socially important. The survey results indicated that the current populations were sufficient to cause moderate to heavy defoliation on 531 acres in 2021. In May 2021, 531 acres that are located on the lower Eastern Shore and were sprayed with *Bacillus thuringiensis*. Ldd defoliation in 2021 totaling 30,000 acres was seen on the lower Eastern shore.

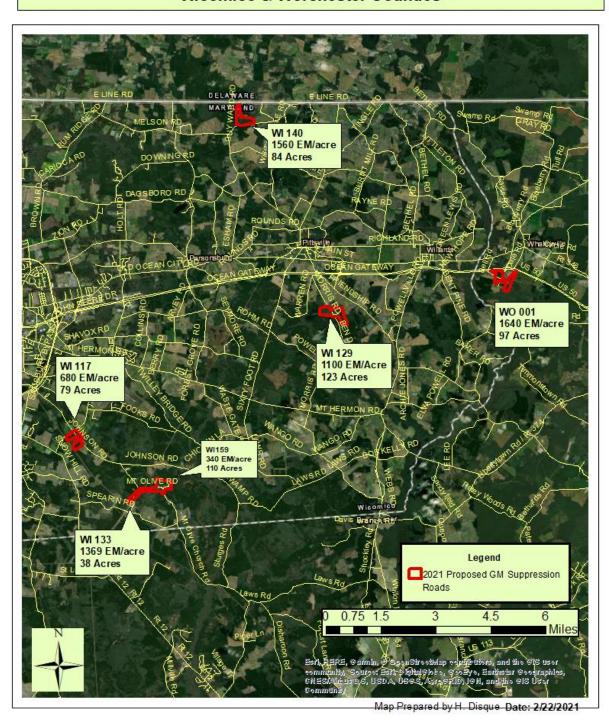
#### MDA 2020-2021 MARYLAND GYPSY MOTH SURVEY RESULTS



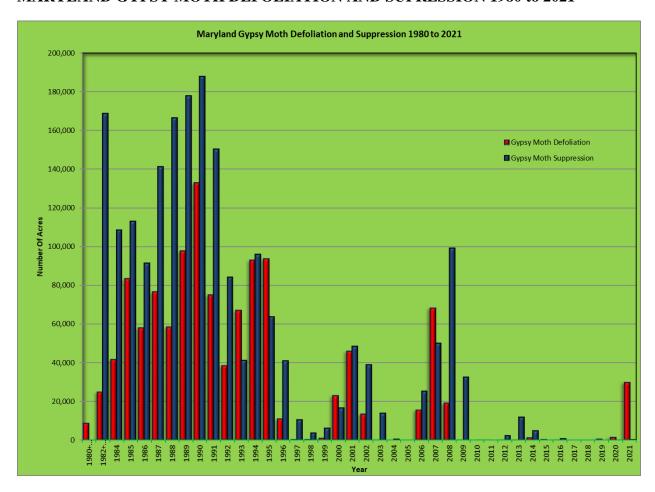


#### MARYLAND GYPSY MOTH SUPPRESSION BLOCKS

# Maryland Department of Agriculture Forest Pest Management 2021 Proposed Gypsy moth Suppression Blocks Wicomico & Worchester Counties



## MARYLAND GYPSY MOTH DEFOLIATION AND SUPRESSION 1980 to 2021



MDA 2020-2021 Maryland Gypsy Moth Egg Mass Survey Summary

|                        | 20    | Marylan<br>020 - 2021 Maryla |       |     | Agricultur<br>gg Mass Si |          | mmary   |                      |  |
|------------------------|-------|------------------------------|-------|-----|--------------------------|----------|---------|----------------------|--|
| Forest Pest Management |       |                              |       |     |                          |          |         |                      |  |
| County                 | Total | Private & County             | State |     | % Positive               | # Blocks | # Acres | % Positive 2019-2020 |  |
| EASTERN SHORE          |       |                              |       |     |                          |          |         |                      |  |
| Caroline               | 41    | 0                            | 41    | 0   | 0.0                      | 6        | 4,233   | С                    |  |
| Dorchester             | 122   | 84                           | 38    | 0   | 0.0                      | 39       | 3,314   | 0.8                  |  |
| Queen Anne's           | 18    | 0                            | 18    | 0   | 0.0                      | 7        | 442     | 5.6                  |  |
| Somerset               | 52    | 52                           | 0     | 1   | 1.9                      | 18       | 1,231   | 2                    |  |
| Talbot                 | 197   | 193                          | 4     | 0   | 0.0                      | 75       | 6,632   | 1                    |  |
| Wicomico               | 226   | 220                          | 6     | 25  | 11.1                     | 70       | 6,952   | 8                    |  |
| Worcester              | 205   | 141                          | 64    | 12  | 5.9                      | 49       | 6,115   | 6                    |  |
| TOTALS                 | 861   | 690                          | 171   | 38  | 4.4                      | 264      | 28,919  | 3.8                  |  |
| SOUTHERN               |       |                              |       |     |                          |          |         |                      |  |
| Charles                | 191   | 159                          | 32    | 3   | 1.6                      | 35       | 44,037  | 1.2                  |  |
| St Marys               | 191   | 180                          | 11    | 3   | 1.6                      | 24       | 23,423  | 1.1                  |  |
| Anne Arundel           | 385   | 382                          | 3     | 5   | 1.3                      | 77       | 33,337  | 1.1                  |  |
| Prince Georges         | 0     | 0                            | 0     | 0   | 0.0                      | 0        | 0       | 0                    |  |
| Calvert                | 0     | 0                            | 0     | 0   | 0.0                      | 0        | 0       | C                    |  |
| TOTALS                 | 767   | 721                          | 46    | 11  | 1.4                      | 136      | 100,797 | 1.1                  |  |
| NORTHEAST              |       |                              |       |     |                          |          |         |                      |  |
| Baltimore              | 750   | 670                          | 80    | 14  | 1.9                      | 210      | 39,572  | 2.4                  |  |
| Cecil                  | 497   | 413                          | 84    | 1   | 0.2                      | 102      | 28,286  | 0.9                  |  |
| Harford                | 580   | 551                          | 29    | 2   | 0.3                      | 157      | 28,343  | 0.6                  |  |
| Kent                   | 10    | 0                            | 10    | 0   | 0.0                      | 3        | 808     | 0                    |  |
| Baltimore City         | 0     | 0                            | 0     | 0   | 0.0                      | 0        | 0       | 0                    |  |
| TOTALS                 | 1,837 | 1,634                        | 203   | 17  | 0.9                      | 472      | 97,009  | 1.4                  |  |
| WESTERN                |       |                              |       |     |                          |          |         |                      |  |
| Allegany               | 887   | 400                          | 487   | 161 | 18.2                     | 126      | 48,105  | 20.8                 |  |
| Garrett                | 1,031 | 600                          | 431   | 177 | 17.2                     | 141      | 62,863  | 22.4                 |  |
| Washington West        | 323   | 202                          | 121   | 61  | 18.9                     | 55       | 12,492  | 10.2                 |  |
| TOTALS                 | 2,241 | 1,202                        | 1,039 | 399 | 17.8                     | 322      | 123,460 | 19.9                 |  |
| CENTRAL                |       |                              |       |     |                          |          |         |                      |  |
| Carroll                | 537   | 512                          | 25    | 1   | 0.2                      | 232      | 19,576  | 0.5                  |  |
| Frederick              | 738   | 602                          | 136   | 7   | 0.9                      | 171      | 52,348  | 0.5                  |  |
| Howard                 | 329   | 296                          | 33    | 3   |                          | 121      | 12,670  |                      |  |
| Montgomery             | 653   | 872                          | 81    | 0   | 0.0                      | 196      | 22,966  | 0                    |  |
| Washington East        | 384   | 282                          | 102   | 2   |                          | 74       | 26,644  | 2.4                  |  |
| TOTALS                 | 2,641 | 2,564                        | 377   | 13  | 0.5                      | 794      | 134,204 | 0.7                  |  |
|                        |       |                              |       |     |                          |          |         |                      |  |
|                        |       |                              |       |     |                          |          |         |                      |  |
| TOTALS                 | 8,347 | 6,811                        | 1,836 | 478 | 5.7                      | 1988     | 484,389 | 2.9                  |  |

# Southern Pine Beetle

The Southern Pine Beetle (SPB) is one of the most destructive insect pests of pines. Maryland is at the northern edge of its range and is commonly found on the lower Eastern Shore and

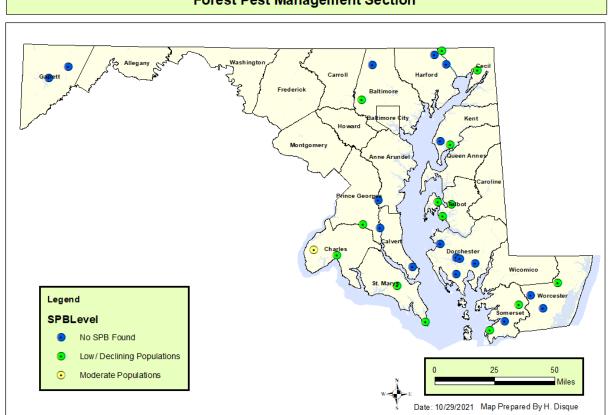
Southern Maryland. Since 1989, Maryland has participated in a multi-state SPB survey throughout the southern United States using pheromone-baited traps. Traps were set up in 14 counties across Maryland. All traps collected low/declining populations

to no SPB with the exception of one trap in Charles County which collected moderate populations of the beetle. At the site in Charles County, ground survey and an aerial drone survey were completed. No mortality or declining trees were found. The traps were set up shortly after the time of redbud bloom.

The Dorchester County area that had experienced an SPB outbreak in 2015-2017 has no additional mortality due to SPB. Many trees in this area and southern Dorchester County are exhibiting chlorotic needles due to flooding and salt-water intrusion.

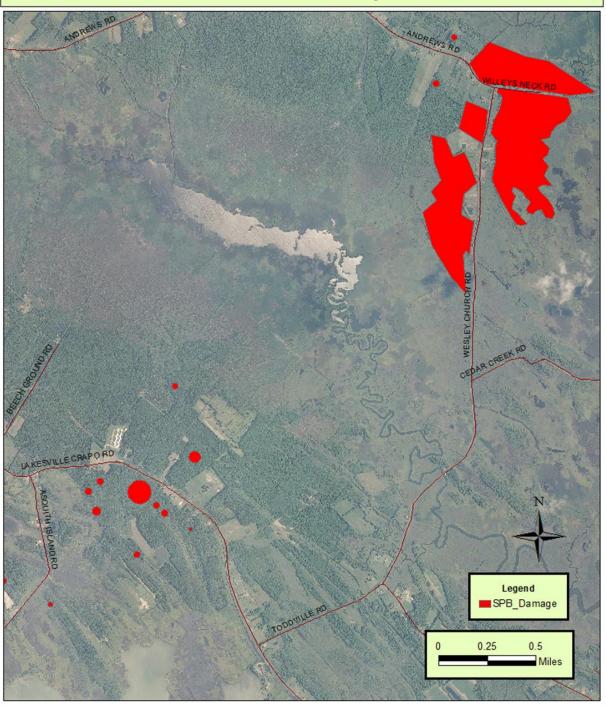
#### MDA 2021 SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE TRAP RESULTS





# MDA SOUTHERN PINE BEETLE AFFECTED AREAS 2015-2017 DORCHESTER COUNTY

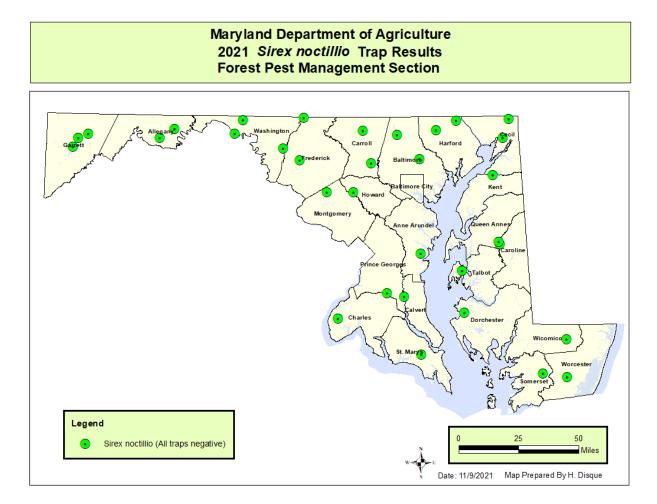
# Maryland Department of Agriculture Forest Pest Management Section Southern Pine Beetle Affected Area 2015-17 Dorchester County



#### Sirex noctillio (Woodwasp)

Sirex noctillio has been the most common species of exotic woodwasp detected at U.S. ports-of-entry associated with solid wood packing materials. Recent detections of this woodwasp outside of port areas in the United States have raised concerns because this insect has the potential to cause significant mortality of pines. The Sirex woodwasp has not been detected in Maryland, but is known to be in Pennsylvania. To detect this insect, the department placed two traps per county on northern tier counties and one trap for all other counties, totaling 33 traps in pine woods. All traps were negative during the 2021 calendar year.

#### MDA 2021 SIREX NOCTILLIO TRAP LOCATIONS



#### Emerald Ash Borer (EAB)

MDA's Forest Pest Management put up 16 green funnel traps in non-positive counties around the state and in the parasitoid release areas to monitor for EAB. EAB was found in Harford, Cecil, Kent, and Baltimore counties.

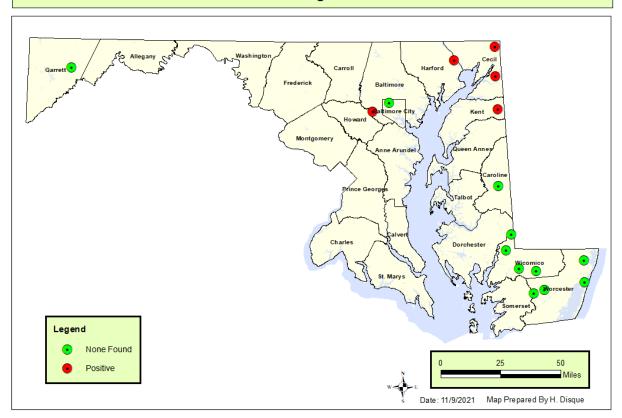
Large-scale, rapid tree die off has begun at the Baltimore County and Baltimore City parasitoid release locations. Rural forests along the upper Eastern shore are also experiencing rapid mortality.

During the 2021 field season Forest Pest Management released 15,003 parasitoids of the EAB. The parasitoids were released at four state park locations, one arboretum, and one state forest in Garrett, Harford, Baltimore, Cecil, and Caroline counties as well as Baltimore City. Forest Pest Management released 800 *Oobius agrili* as pupae in 8 vials. At one site 1,241 *Tetrastichus planipennisi* were released in 9 bolts. Two species of *Spathius* were released, 8,705 *Spathius agrili* as adults and 4,259 *Spathius galinae* pupae in sticks.

In addition, Forest Pest Management staff supervised treatments of ash trees around the state. This work was done at parks in cooperation with DNR, the Blackwater National Wildlife Refuge, and the Maryland Conservation Corps (MCC). In total 282 ash trees, 3,462" diameter at breast height (DBH) were treated using 21,410 ml of Tree-age, emamectin benzoate. Many of the trees treated were in riparian areas targeting rare tree species to provide seed for the future regeneration.

# MDA 2021 EMERALD ASH BORER TRAP LOCATIONS

# Maryland Department of Agriculture 2021 Emerald Ash Borer Trap Results Forest Pest Management Section

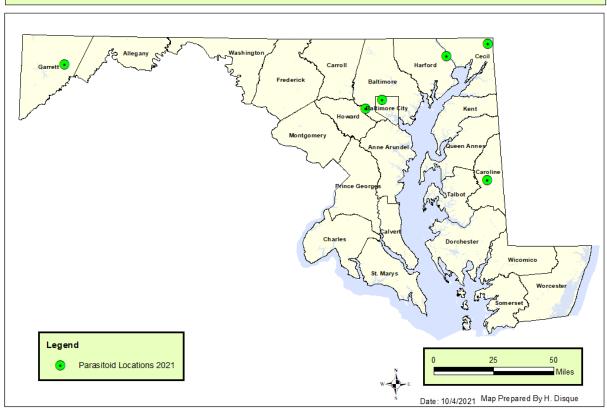


#### MDA EMERALD ASH BORER PARASITOID RELEASE SUMMARY

| Maryland Department of Agriculture<br>Forest Pest Management<br>2021 Emerald Ash Borer Parasitoid Release Summary |          |           |                       |       |                 |         |                  |         |                           |       |
|---|----------|-----------|-----------------------|-------|-----------------|---------|------------------|---------|---------------------------|-------|
| Site Name   | Latitude | Longitude | Oobius agrili (vials) |       | Spathius agrili |         | Spathius galinae |         | Tetrastichus planipennisi |       |
|   |          |           | # vials               | Total | # females       | # males | # females        | # males | # bolts                   | Total |
| Cylburn Arboretum   | 39.3513  | -76.6537  |                       |       | 2902            | 1437    | 654              | 218     |                           |       |
| Savage River State Forest   | 39.6004  | -79.1522  | 8                     | 800   |                 |         | 655              | 82      | 9                         | 1241  |
| Martinak State Park   | 38.86002 | -75.8415  |                       |       |                 |         | 654              | 217     |                           |       |
| Susquehanna State Park  | 39.61383 | -76.151   |                       |       |                 |         | 677              | 225     |                           |       |
| Patapsco Valley State Park  | 39.29593 | -76.7836  |                       |       | 2992            | 1374    |                  |         |                           |       |
| Fair Hill State Park  | 39.70282 | -75.8288  |                       |       |                 |         | 656              | 219     |                           |       |
|   |          | Totals    | 8                     | 800   | 5894            | 2811    | 3296             | 961     | 9                         | 1241  |

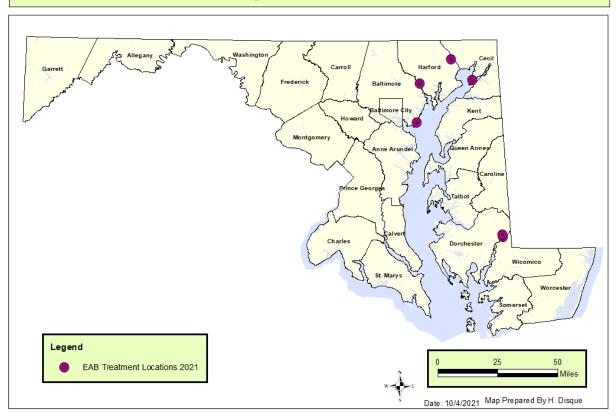
# MDA 2021 EMERALD ASH BORER PARASITOID LOCATIONS





#### MDA 2021 EMERALD ASH BORER TREATED TREE LOCATIONS

## Maryland Department of Agriculture 2021 EAB Treatment Locations Forest Pest Management Section & MD DNR & MCC



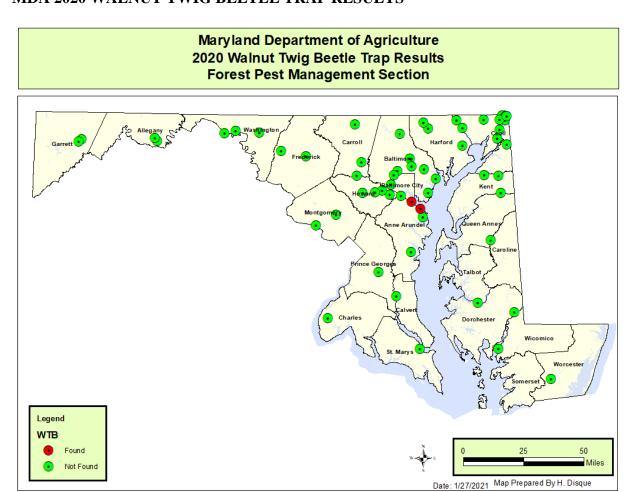
#### Thousand Canker Disease of Black Walnut and Walnut Twig Beetle.

Thousand Canker Disease was first recognized in 2008 as a complex consisting of the walnut twig beetle *Pityophthorus juglandis* and the fungus *Geosmithia morbida*, and is blamed for widespread mortality of eastern black walnut planted in the western United States. It has since spread east and was first reported in the natural range of the eastern black walnut in 2010 when it was discovered in Tennessee. Since then, it has been found in seven eastern states (TN, IN, OH, PA, VA, NC, & MD). In 2011, Maryland along with several other mid-Atlantic states started surveying for this disease. The walnut twig beetle was first detected in Maryland in 2013 and by October 2014 thousand cankers disease was confirmed. A quarantine order for northeastern Cecil County was issued by the Maryland Department of Agriculture in January 2015 to limit the spread of Thousand Canker Disease of Black Walnut. Upon new positive detections in 2018, the quarantine order was updated to include all of Baltimore City and part of Baltimore County. This new quarantine was signed on May 1, 2019 by Maryland's Secretary of Agriculture.

In 2020, Forest Pest Management staff set 60 Lindgren funnel traps baited with the walnut twig beetle lure across 20 counties and in Baltimore City. Of these traps, 26 were set near previously positive sites in Cecil and Baltimore counties and Baltimore City to delimit the infested areas.

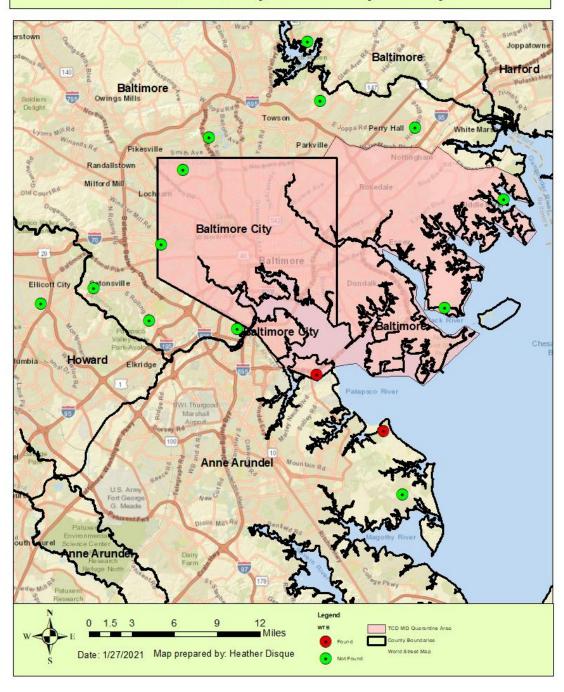
Traps were checked every two weeks, field samples were collected, samples were sorted and labeled in office, and then samples were sent to the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture for identification. The previously positive site, trap CE01, was not positive in 2020. Trees at the original positive site have shown no evidence of decline. One trap in Anne Arundel County and one trap in Baltimore City were found to be positive. The Anne Arundel County find was the first record for the County. The trees are being monitored for decline and samples will be taken when TCD symptoms develop.

#### MDA 2020 WALNUT TWIG BEETLE TRAP RESULTS

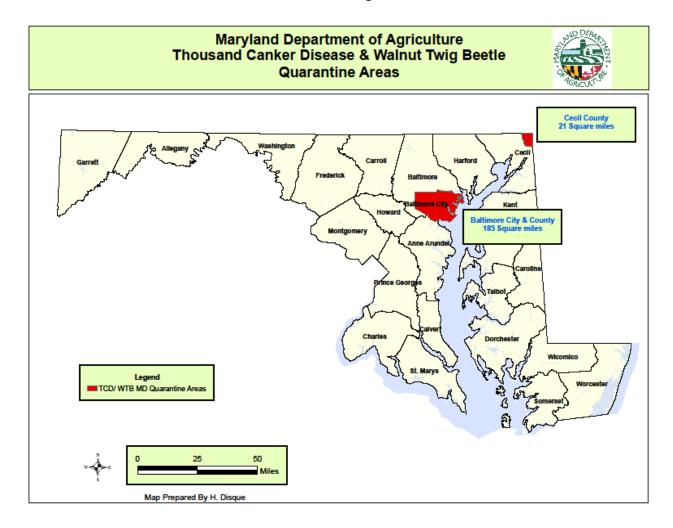


# MDA WTB TRAP RESULTS AND TCD QUARANTINE AREAS

# Maryland Department of Agriculture 2020 WTB Trap Results and TCD Quarantine Anne Arundel County, Baltimore City & County



#### MDA THOUSAND CANKER DISEASE & WTB QUARANTINE AREAS



#### Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Suppression

The Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) remains the major threat to the health of eastern hemlock. Infested hemlocks occur in the metropolitan area between Baltimore and Washington and in natural stands from Cecil to Garrett counties. In 2003 to 2004, a joint task force comprised of the FPM and Maryland Department of Natural Resources (DNR) experts addressed the multi-disciplinary needs of the HWA infestation. The task force prioritized more than 50 hemlock stands and selected them as the sites for joint suppression efforts (chemical and/or biocontrol). Only publicly owned or public use sites would be part of this suppression project. Currently, the chemical option involves treating the hemlock trees with the insecticide imidacloprid by one of two methods – trunk injection or soil injection. The biocontrol option involves releasing HWA predators into the hemlock stands in an effort to reduce HWA populations.

A total of 6,692 hemlock trees and 75,415" DBH were treated in Maryland between July 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. Of this total, 995 trees or 9,497" DBH were trunk injected and 5,696 trees or 65,897" DBH were soil injected. CoreTect was used to treat 1 trees totaling 21" DBH. Treatment efforts in 2020 were severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

# MDA YEARLY IMIDACLOPRID TREATMENTS FOR HEMLOCK WOOLLY ADELGID CONTROL IN MARYLAND

|      | Maryland Department of Agriculture<br>Forest Pest Management<br>Yearly Imidacloprid Treatments for Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Control In Maryland 2004 - 2020 |                 |                |                |          |            |        |            |  |  |
|------|---|-----------------|----------------|----------------|----------|------------|--------|------------|--|--|
|      | Trunk Injection   | Trunk Injection | Soil Injection | Soil Injection | CoreTect | CoreTect   | Total  | Total      |  |  |
| Year | #Trees  | Inches DBH*     | # Trees        | Inches DBH     | # Trees  | Inches DBH | #Trees | Inches DBH |  |  |
| 2004 | 166   | 2,687           | 0              | 0              | 0        | 0          | 166    | 2,687      |  |  |
| 2005 | 106   | 1,433           | 1,675          | 17,623         | 0        | 0          | 1,781  | 19,056     |  |  |
| 2006 | 38  | 476             | 1,015          | 9,465          | 0        | 0          | 1,053  | 9,941      |  |  |
| 2007 | 22  | 325             | 324            | 4,279          | 0        | 0          | 346    | 4,604      |  |  |
| 2008 | 129   | 1,982           | 18             | 257            | 0        | 0          | 147    | 2,239      |  |  |
| 2009 | 124   | 1,281           | 675            | 6,029          | 0        | 0          | 799    | 7,310      |  |  |
| 2010 | 724   | 8,534           | 3,673          | 33,701         | 98       | 862        | 4,495  | 43,096     |  |  |
| 2011 | 1,905   | 19,468          | 7,285          | 81,684         | 80       | 610        | 9,270  | 101,761    |  |  |
| 2012 | 1,957   | 20,206          | 10,086         | 105,395        | 4        | 45         | 12,047 | 125,645    |  |  |
| 2013 | 1,980   | 18,993          | 11,755         | 117,604        | 7        | 47         | 13,742 | 136,644    |  |  |
| 2014 | 1,844   | 19,047          | 6,915          | 75,751         | 644      | 7,853      | 9,403  | 102,651    |  |  |
| 2015 | 1,474   | 14,378          | 8,072          | 94,099         | 4        | 32         | 9,550  | 108,509    |  |  |
| 2016 | 1,822   | 19,791          | 8008           | 85,813         | 64       | 577        | 9,894  | 106,181    |  |  |
| 2017 | 1,435   | 15,610          | 8,511          | 93,997         | 234      | 252        | 10,180 | 109,859    |  |  |

## Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Predator Releases

1,433

1,431

17,276

686

14,647

14,994

7,298

181,150

2018

2019

2020

Total

Over 54,297 predators have been released in Maryland since 1999. In 2020, 1,020 *Laricobius nigrinus* were released at sites in Harford and Frederick counties and 512 *Laricobius osakensis* were released in Garrett County.

8,667

8,386

2,970

88,035

93,623

82,628

39,558

941,506

220

27

1,387

10,320

9,844

3,661

106,698

180

37

11,052

108,827

97,802

46,893

1,133,705

## MDA MARYLAND HEMLOCK WOOLLY ADELGID PREDATOR RELEASES 2003-2020

| 2020  |            |      |            |         |                         |                         |  |  |
|---|------------|------|------------|---------|-------------------------|-------------------------|--|--|
| Maryland Department of Agriculture<br>Forest Pest Management<br>Maryland Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Predator Releases 2003 - 2020 |            |      |            |         |                         |                         |  |  |
| Hemlock Stand   | County     |      | Laricobius | Scymnus | Scymnus<br>sinuanodulus | Sasajiscymnus<br>tsugae |  |  |
| Rocky Gap State Park  | Allegany   | 3476 | 0          | 105     | 0                       | 5000                    |  |  |
| Prettyboy Reservoir   | Baltimore  | 3682 | 0          | 0       | 0                       | 0                       |  |  |
| Cunningham Falls State Park   | Frederick  | 1320 | 0          | 0       | 0                       | 0                       |  |  |
| Frederick City Watershed  | Frederick  | 3383 | 0          | 0       | 945                     | 0                       |  |  |
| Broad Creek Scout Camp  | Harford    | 3120 | 0          | 0       | 0                       | 15410                   |  |  |
| Rocks State Park  | Harford    | 1924 | 0          | 0       | 0                       | 0                       |  |  |
| Hagerstown Watershed  | Washington | 1409 | 0          | 0       | 0                       | 0                       |  |  |
| Big Run (Savage River State Forest)   | Garrett    | 1685 | 0          | 0       | 0                       | 0                       |  |  |
| Big Run State Park  | Garrett    | 325  | 0          | 0       | 0                       | 0                       |  |  |
| Dry Run (Savage River State Forest)   | Garrett    | 150  | 0          | 0       | 0                       | 0                       |  |  |
| Frostburg Watershed   | Garrett    | 300  | 0          | 0       | 0                       | 0                       |  |  |
| Laurel Run (Potomac State Forest)   | Garrett    | 1684 | 0          | 0       | 0                       | 0                       |  |  |
| Lostland Run (Potomac State Forest)   | Garrett    | 1857 | 500        | 0       | 0                       | 0                       |  |  |
| Poplar Lick (Savage River State Forest)   | Garrett    | 2799 | 2022       | 0       | 0                       | 0                       |  |  |
| Elk Lick (Savage River State Forest)  | Garrett    | 1691 | 500        | 0       | 0                       | 0                       |  |  |
| Gunpowder Falls State Park  | Baltimore  | 0    | 1010       | 0       | 0                       | 0                       |  |  |

#### **HWAS Efficacy Surveys**

Treatment efficacy surveys have been conducted annually since 2006. Data analyzed through 2017 shows treated trees averaged a 79% reduction in HWA populations when measured 1-year post treatment and non-treated trees averaged a 24% increase in HWA populations when measured over the same period. In 2019-2020, efficacy surveys were done at treatment sites in Baltimore, Frederick, Garrett, and Washington Counties.

28805

945

20410

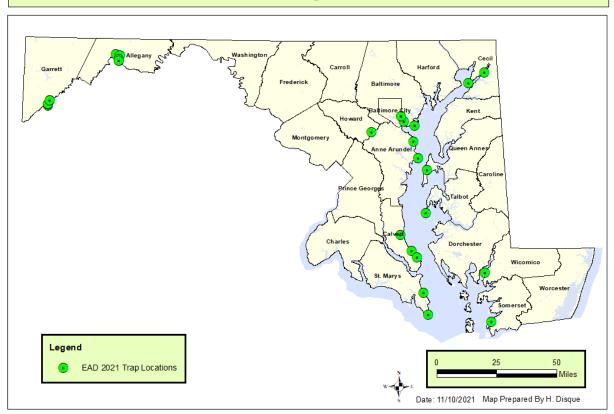
#### **Exotic Asian Defoliator Survey**

A comprehensive exotic Asian defoliator survey was proposed and funded through the Farm Bill for 2020. This survey increases the likelihood that this harmful invader can be detected early and that an appropriate eradication response can be mounted to protect Maryland's forest industry. One of the high-risk areas targeted is the Chesapeake Bay, as it is a major thoroughfare for ships coming into the Port of Baltimore. An increase in the size of ships and ship traffic coming to Baltimore has increased the risk of an accidental introduction of exotic Asian defoliators. Eight moths were chosen to survey based on their biological characteristics that enable them to become successful invaders, for their habitat preference, and prior intelligence that suggests an increased risk of introduction.

Forest Pest Management deployed traps at 19 locations statewide to determine the presence or absence of Asian defoliator moths. At each location six traps were set up to survey for the eight species of moths. Traps ran from May to September and were checked bi-weekly. Forests composed of oak, willow, sweet gum, poplar, beech, pine, and other host trees and shrubs were surveyed. Several Asian gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar asiatica/japonica*) traps have been positive for gypsy moths. The European and Asian gypsy moths are difficult to morphologically separate, so the specimens were sent to the USDA's Otis laboratory for genetic testing and species determination. Final results are pending, however all of the samples that have been processed were determined to be European gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar dispar*).

#### MDA 2021 EXOTIC ASIAN DEFOLIATOR SURVEY LOCATIONS



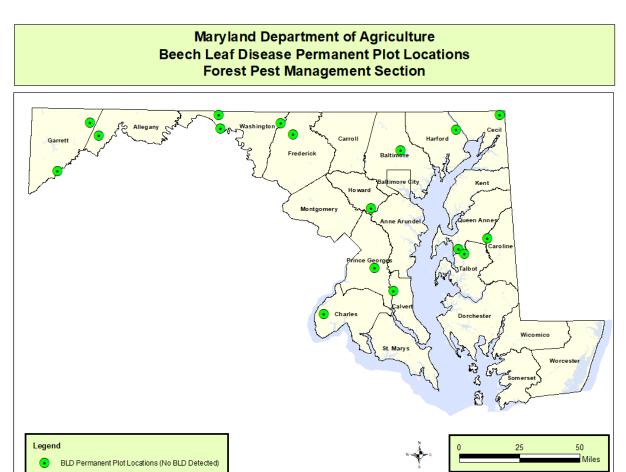


## Beech Leaf Disease (BLD)

BLD was first discovered in declining American beech in Ohio in 2012. It has since been found in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, West Virginia, Virginia, and southern Ontario, Canada. This disease which is linked to the nematode *Litylenchus crenatae mccannii* causes mortality of understory American beech saplings and seedlings, and severe decline in mature, overstory trees. FPM set up and monitored 17 permanent plot locations for BLD and

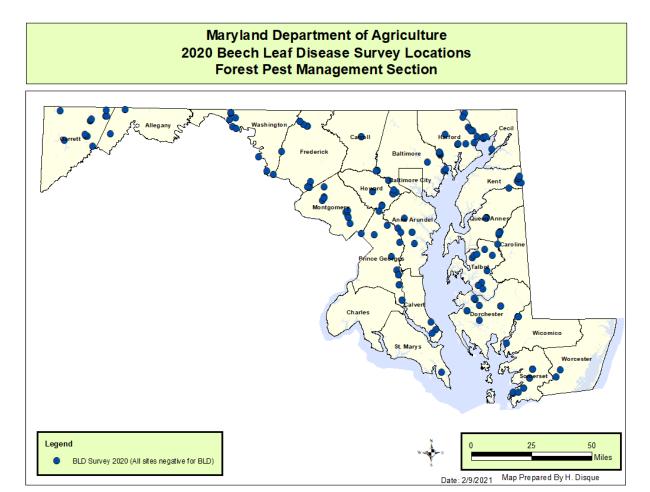
conducted over 160 site surveys. All sites have been negative for BLD. The majority (80) of the survey sites had trees in the 4-12 inch size class, with the 12-25 inch (48 surveys), the greater than 25 inch (23 surveys), and the under 4 inch (11 surveys) size classes following respectively.

#### MDA 2020 BLD PERMANENT PLOT LOCATIONS



Date: 3/22/2021 Map Prepared By H. Disque

#### MDA 2020 MDA BLD SURVEY LOCATIONS

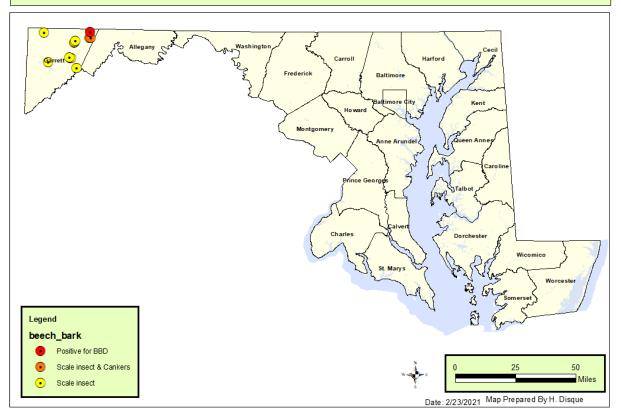


#### **Beech Bark Disease**

BBD has been found in approximately 160,000 acres in Allegany and Garrett counties. In 2013, four permanent BBD monitoring sites were established. Permanent plots were visited in 2020 for the detection of beech leaf disease. During beech leaf disease surveys, BBD was found in the Frostburg Watershed for the first time. Areas with confirmed BBD are highlighted on the map below.

#### MDA POSITIVE BEECH BARK DISEASE (BBD) LOCATIONS





#### Saltwater Intrusion

In July 2020, a saltwater intrusion delineation flight was flown across the Lower Eastern Shore. This flight mirrored the flights taken yearly since 2017 in order to determine the areas affected by saltwater intrusion and to map changes.

In total 50,365 acres of forest were found to be affected by saltwater intrusion. The affected acres were spread across the lower Eastern Shore. Dorchester, Somerset, Worcester, and Wicomico Counties were affected by saltwater intrusion. This is in contrast to 2019 when 10,174 acres were found to be affected by saltwater intrusion. The large majority of the mapped forests were either very severely or severely affected by saltwater intrusion.

# MDA SALTWATER INTRUSION FLIGHT SUMMARY COUNTY

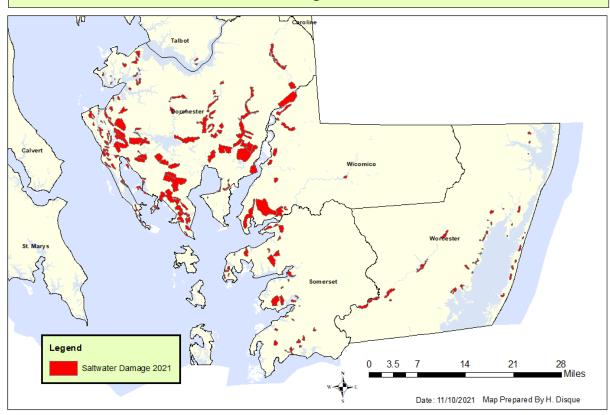
| Maryland Department of Agriculture Forest Pest Management 2021 Saltwater Intrusion Flight Summary |        |  |  |  |  |
|---|--------|--|--|--|--|
| County  | Acres  |  |  |  |  |
| Dorchester 60,575   |        |  |  |  |  |
| Somerset  | 8,249  |  |  |  |  |
| Wicomico 9,799  |        |  |  |  |  |
| Worcester   | 5,758  |  |  |  |  |
| TOTAL   | 84,381 |  |  |  |  |

# MDA SALTWATER INTRUSION SEVERITY

| Maryland Department of Agriculture  Forest Pest Management  2021 Saltwater Intrusion Severity |        |  |  |  |  |
|---|--------|--|--|--|--|
| Percentage of Forest Affected   | Acres  |  |  |  |  |
| Very Light (1-3%) 647   |        |  |  |  |  |
| Light (4-10%) 2,853   |        |  |  |  |  |
| Moderate (11-29%) 13,386  |        |  |  |  |  |
| Severe (30-50%)   | 24,764 |  |  |  |  |
| Very Severe (>50%) 42,731   |        |  |  |  |  |
| TOTAL 84,381  |        |  |  |  |  |

#### MDA 2020 SALTWATER INTRUSION

#### Maryland Department of Agriculture 2021 Saltwater Intrusion Affected Areas Forest Pest Management Section

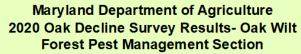


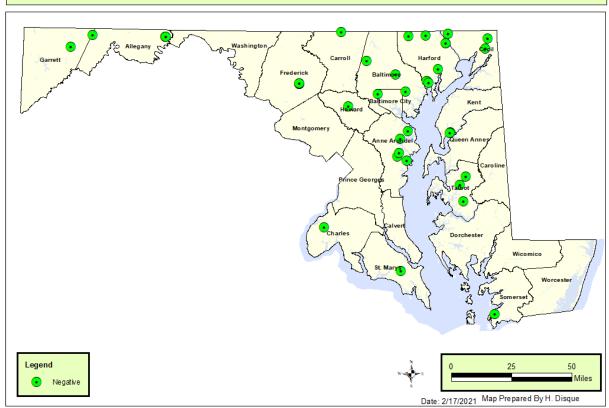
#### Oak Issues

In Maryland there are significant numbers of mature oak trees in decline and dying. Secondary pests are present, but likely not the cause of mortality. An oak wilt survey has begun and samples are being processed at the University of Maryland Plant Diagnostic Laboratory Over 89 sites were visited in the summer of 2020, and samples were collected at 33 sites. Samples were taken from leaves, branches, bole, roots, and the soil as available and transported to the UM PDL for testing.

The UM PDL tested for Oak Wilt, and several other fungal and bacterial tree pathogens. Lab results found no positive sites for Oak Wilt, *Bretziella fagacearu*. The results did indicate several other pathogens were found including *Phytophthora cinnamomi*, *Phytophthora cactorum*, *Diplodia corticola*, *Xylella fastidiosa*, and *Botryosphaeria dothidea* among others.

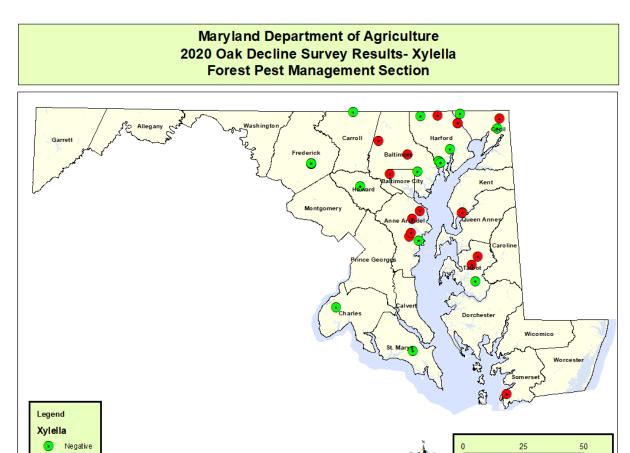
# MDA 2020 OAK WILT DECLINE SURVEY RESULTS - OAK WILT





# MDA 2020 OAK WILT DECLINE SURVEY RESULTS - XYLELLA

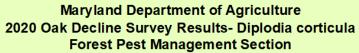
Positive

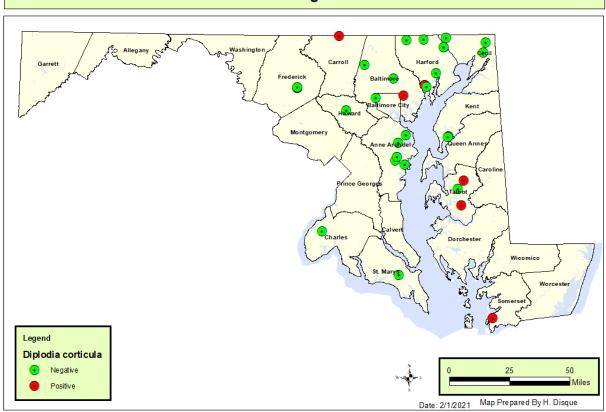


Map Prepared By H. Disque

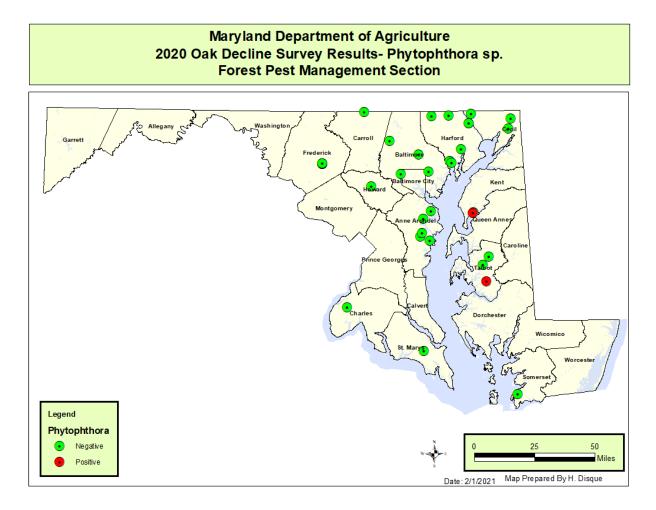
Date: 2/1/2021

# MDA 2020 OAK WILT DECLINE SURVEY RESULTS – DIPLODIA CORTICULA





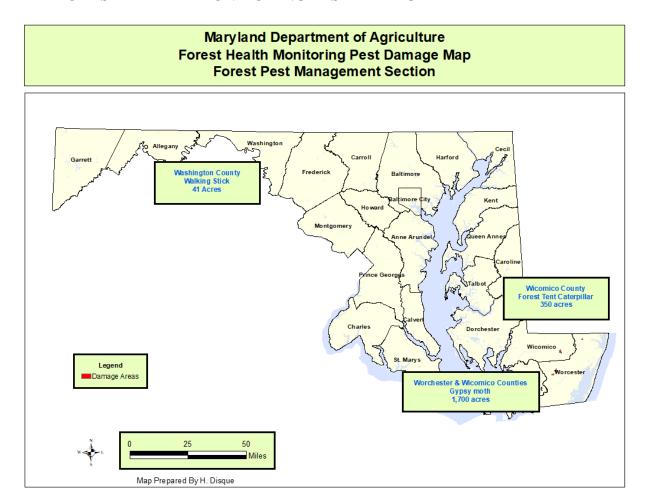
#### MDA 2020 OAK WILT DECLINE SURVEY RESULTS - PHYTOPHTORA



#### FOREST HEALTH MONITORING- PEST DAMAGE

Defoliation areas were mapped during an aerial flight, a drone flight, and a ground survey.

#### MDA FOREST HEALTH MONITORING PEST DAMAGE MAP

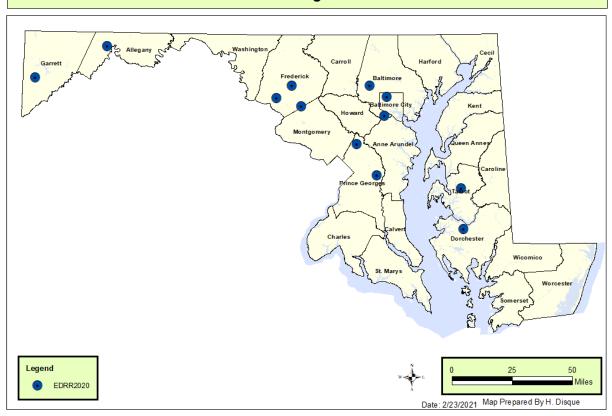


#### **Additional Forest Pest Surveys**

Four additional surveys were conducted by FPM. These include a survey for Redbay Ambrosia Beetle, a survey for unknown exotic bark beetles also known as Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR), an oak pest commodity survey, and a survey for *Phytophthora ramorum* using a stream bait technique. None of these pests or disease were found in the state in 2020.

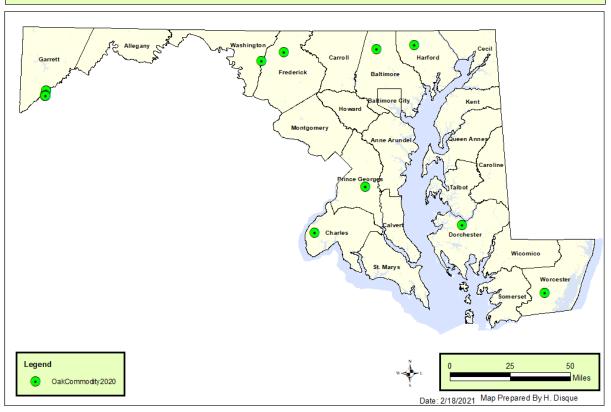
# **MDA EDRR SURVEY MAP**

# Maryland Department of Agriculture 2020 EDRR Trap Locations Forest Pest Management Section



# MDA OAK COMMODITY SURVEY MAP





# MDA P. RAMORUM SURVEY LOCATIONS MAP

# Maryland Department of Agriculture 2020 *Phytophthora ramorum* Stream Bait Survey Forest Pest Management Section

