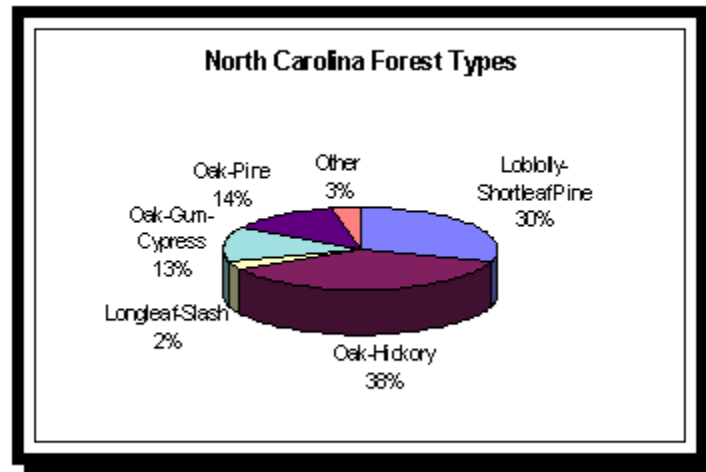


# Forest Health Highlights - 2001

## North Carolina

The North Carolina Division of Forest Resources 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.



### North Carolina Forest Facts

- Over **55%** of North Carolina is **forested** (more than 19.2 million acres).
- Almost **90%** of forested acreage in North Carolina is **privately owned**.
- The **National Forests in North Carolina** (1.1 million acres) provide recreational and wildlife benefits as well as forest products and jobs for thousands of people.
- The **southern pine beetle** (SPB) is North Carolina's most significant forest insect pest. 2001 activity increased 98% over 2000 levels to 3,871 spots in 32 counties, with 22 in epidemic status. Activity was greatest in the mountain counties, but is also increasing in the foothills and Piedmont. There is viability concern for uncommon species such as table mountain pine. Poor salvage markets have severely limited control efforts.
- In 2001, **gypsy moth** eradication and slow the spread activities were limited to trapping, with no moths captured in previously treated areas, and no new infestations found. Delimiting trapping on past infestations will be completed in 2002.
- **Forest tent caterpillar** (FTC) was first recognized as a serious bottomland hardwood defoliator along the Roanoke River in northeastern North Carolina in 1997. Acres defoliated declined from 60,000 in 2000 to 40,000 acres in 2001, with only 500 classified as heavy. No treatments are planned, but studies are still going to determine the effects of defoliation on water quality.
- **Dogwood anthracnose** is a disease that occurs in the forest environment at higher elevations and in cool moist areas. The disease is currently found in 28 counties within the State and is causing significant mortality to the native dogwoods. Permanent impact plots were established in the late 1980's and early 1990's and are visited annually. The 2001 visit revealed that dogwood anthracnose has killed 56% of the native dogwood trees in 24 western counties (covering 2.4 million acres).
- **Esther moth** is a new pest identified in 2001, defoliating loblolly pine in several locations in Anson County.

## North Carolina Division of Forest Resources and the USDA Forest Service

In spite of the relatively good health of North Carolina'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 North Carolina Division of Forest Resources 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 North Carolina's forests.

***Forest Health Protection contributions (dollars) to the North Carolina Division of Forest Resources Cooperative Forest Health program, cooperative pest suppression projects and National Forests in North Carolina pest suppression, 1999-2002.***

	1999	2000	2001	2002
<b>Cooperative Forest Health Program</b>	89,782	89,782	80,571	100,308
<b>Forest Health Monitoring</b>	144,000	72,000	92,000	71,000
<b>Cooperative suppression/eradication - southern pine beetle suppression</b>	30,000	80,000	900,000	150,000
<b>Cooperative suppression/eradication - gypsy moth eradication</b>	310,000	58,000	50,000	20,000
<b>Cooperative suppression/eradication - Slow-the-Spread (gypsy moth)</b>	278,000	355,000	278,318	398,648
<b>NFs in North Carolina - southern pine beetle suppression</b>	25,000	150,000	250,000	250,000
<b>NFs in North Carolina - gypsy moth eradication</b>	930,000	188,000	188,000	0

**For additional information, contact:**

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