

Invasive Insect Certification Program: For Landscape, Nursery, and Urban Forest Pests

Location: Virtual, GotoWebinar

Day 1:

Tuesday, September 28, 2021: The Impacts and Costs of Invasive Insects

9:00 AM Introductions and explanations of quizzes, certificates, and pesticide and association credits.

9:15 AM **Characteristics of Invasive Insects and How They Get Here**

Tawny Simisky, Extension Entomologist, UMass Extension Landscape, Nursery, and Urban Forestry Program

A brief discussion of what characteristics enable insects to be invasive, general ways in which insects get introduced to new places, a short review of Integrated Pest Management (IPM), and prioritizing that strategy for the management of insect pests.

10:15 AM Break

10:30 AM **The Animal Plant Health Inspection Service, Plant Protection and Quarantine Regulatory and Survey Programs with a Focus on the Federal Regulations Pertinent to Invasive Insects in Southern New England**

Kate Aitkenhead, United States Department of Agriculture- Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

This will be a discussion describing the PPQ programs and the agencies involved in the cooperative pest detection and eradication efforts currently in southern New England. Participants will be introduced to their State Plant Health Director and who to notify if you believe you have found an invasive insect.

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM: Closing remarks, credit explanations, quiz reminders.

Day 2:

Wednesday, September 29, 2021: The Impacts and Costs of Invasive Insects, *continued*

9:00 AM Introductions and explanations of quizzes, certificates, and pesticide and association credits.

9:15 AM **The Asian Longhorned Beetle in Massachusetts: 2021 Updates from Worcester**

Ryan Vazquez, USDA - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service

2021 updates from the Cooperative Asian Longhorned Beetle Eradication Program in Worcester, MA will be provided, as well as highlights from other national programs. Participants will be reminded what to look out for and who to contact if you suspect you have found an Asian longhorned beetle or the damage they cause. Federal regulations surrounding Asian longhorned beetle to be discussed.

10:15 AM Break

10:30 AM **Hemlock Woolly Adelgid and its Impacts on Forests in Massachusetts and New England**

David Orwig, Harvard Forest, Harvard University

A discussion of the identification, life cycle, hosts, and associated damage from hemlock woolly adelgid. An overview of its impacts on forests in Massachusetts and New England.

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM: Closing remarks, credit explanations, quiz reminders.

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Day 3:

Tuesday, October 12, 2021: Invasive Forest & Agricultural Insects in MA: Current and Future

9:00 AM Introductions and explanations of quizzes, certificates, and pesticide and association credits.

9:15 AM **Invasive Forest Insects in MA: Identification, Life Cycles, Hosts, Damage, and MA State Regulations**

Nicole Keleher, MA Department of Conservation and Recreation

A presentation of the many different invasive forest insects in MA including an update on current pest issues.

10:15 AM Break

10:30 AM **Invasive Agricultural Insects in MA: Current and Potential Future Pests**

Jennifer Forman Orth, MA Department of Agricultural Resources

A review of invasive insects in MA that have the potential to impact agricultural commodities, along with the pest survey and management efforts conducted by MDAR. Current pests will be highlighted, along with potential future pests covered by the state's CAPS program. The presentation will cover identification and biology, host plants, MDAR's outreach efforts, and how to report suspicious insects.

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM: Closing remarks, credit explanations, quiz reminders.

Day 4:

Wednesday, October 13, 2021: Invasive Forest & Agricultural Insects in Massachusetts, continued

9:00 AM Introductions and explanations of quizzes, certificates, and pesticide and association credits.

9:15 AM **It's Time to Prepare: Recognizing the Spotted Lanternfly**

Brian Walsh, Extension Educator, Ornamentals, Penn State Extension

Recognizing the life stages of the spotted lanternfly (eggs, nymphs, adults), life cycle, and hosts. The view from PA, what we might expect, and how PA is dealing with this invasive insect. Management and research updates, time permitting.

10:15 AM Break

10:30 AM **Not an Insect, But Invasive Earthworms: What's the Latest with Jumping Worms?**

Olga Kostromytska, Extension Assistant Professor and Turf Entomologist, UMass Stockbridge School of Agriculture

Technically earthworms are not insects, but they have garnered a lot of interest from the public in recent years. Presentation to discuss the identification and biology of invasive earthworms in MA. This will include information about "crazy/jumping worm" species (*Amyntas*) that have many homeowners in MA and New England concerned. Dr. Kostromytska will also share updates about current research.

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM: Closing remarks, credit explanations, quiz reminders.

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Day 5:

Tuesday, October 26, 2021: Management of Invasive Forest and Landscape Insect Pests

9:00 AM Introductions and explanations of quizzes, certificates, and pesticide and association credits.

9:15 AM **The Successful Biological Control of Winter Moth**

Dr. Joseph Elkinton, University of Massachusetts Amherst

*A quick review of the identification, life cycle, hosts, and damage caused by this important forest and landscape pest. Dr. Elkinton will discuss the successes of managing winter moth in Massachusetts and New England with the release of *Cyzenis albicans*, a parasitic fly enemy of this invasive insect. Additional research updates from the Elkinton lab to be provided, time permitting.*

10:15 AM Break

10:30 AM **Biological Control of the Spotted Lanternfly: Updates**

Hannah Broadley, USDA - Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, PPQ Science and Technology

The factors that go into making decisions about approving the release of exotic biological control agents will be discussed, as will the permitting and testing process prior to release of non-native biocontrol agents. Highlighting Forest Pest Methods Laboratory research and the biocontrol of SLF: key species involved and current and future research.

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM: Closing remarks, credit explanations, quiz reminders.

Day 6:

Wednesday, October 27, 2021: Management of Invasive Forest and Landscape Insect Pests, *continued*

9:00 AM Introductions and explanations of quizzes, certificates, and pesticide and association credits.

9:15 AM **Invasive Insects as Pests of Managed Landscapes**

Gregory Hoover, Ornamental Entomologist (retired), Pennsylvania State University, Dept. of Entomology

Identification, life cycles, host plants, damage, and effective management of invasive insect pests of landscapes, such as: viburnum leaf beetle, elongate hemlock scale, Japanese maple scale, and European pine sawflies.

10:15 AM Break

10:30 AM **Reduced Risk Strategies for Managing Landscape and Nursery Insect Pests**

Daniel Gilrein, Extension Entomologist, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Suffolk County

This presentation will discuss important nursery pest insects and current reduced risk strategies to manage them, including organic and other unconventional alternatives. Invasive insects will be the focus, although some problematic native species may be highlighted as well.

11:30 AM – 12:00 PM: Closing remarks, credit explanations, quiz reminders.