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BALSAM WOOLLY ADELGID

IMPORTANT UPDATE:

The Canadian Christmas Tree Association has recently shared vital information concerning the detection of Balsam Woolly Adelgid within Southern Michigan. While this raises concerns regarding Christmas Tree nursery stock, rest assured that Christmas Tree shipments will remain unaffected. This assurance stems from the timing of the fall harvest, during which the insect is in the overwinter nymph stage, firmly attached to the bark. As the tree is cut, it gradually depletes resources, ultimately leading to the demise of the nymphs due to nutrient deprivation.

In response to this situation, the Canadian Christmas Tree Association urges seedling producers shipping fir species to Michigan to implement a spring treatment program. It is imperative that we collaborate diligently to mitigate the spread of such invasive pests.

BalMSU has a dedicated website to BWA in Michigan, this is a great resource for this topic. ([Balsam Woolly Adelgid \(msu.edu\)](https://balsamwoollyadelgid.msu.edu/))

Listed below are a few articles/extension bulletins that have been published recently on BWA.

[Balsam woolly adelgid found in Michigan - Christmas Trees \(msu.edu\)](https://news.msu.edu/2023/11/23/balsam-woolly-adelgid-found-in-michigan-christmas-trees/). (MSU news article)

[Balsam Woolly Adelgid in Michigan - Christmas Trees \(msu.edu\)](https://extension.msu.edu/publications/BWA-Michigan-Christmas-Trees/). (bulletin)

Directly quoted from the bulletin document: "In September 2023, approximately 50 balsam fir trees infested with BWA were found on forested land in southern Missaukee County. Since then, more infestations of BWA have been identified on balsam fir in forests in Missaukee and Clare counties. In addition, BWA was detected on young Fraser fir trees in a Christmas tree farm in Oceana County in October 2023. Surveys to assess the distribution and extent of BWA infestations were launched in December 2023 and are continuing. To date, infestations have been patchy and localized, affecting anywhere from five or fewer trees to more than 100 trees in a given site"

