

2005 Hemlock Woolly Adelgid Border Survey

Background

The 2005 Hemlock Woolly Adelgid grant narrative commits us to surveying at least 10 hemlock stands or plantings in counties which abut infested counties in Massachusetts. The product is reporting finds to the US Forest Service.

Timing of Surveys:

September

Equipment:

Plastic bags, twist ties and labels
Permanent marker
Pruning shears
Counter
GPS unit
Clipboard
Survey instructions and data form

Survey procedures:

The goal is to inspect 200 hemlock branches for hemlock woolly adelgid. Focus efforts on trees along natural travel corridors (hedgerows, roads, trails).

1. Choose a tree to begin. Inspect the terminal one meter of a branch within reach, by turning it over to expose the under side. If no suspected hemlock woolly adelgid are seen, record the branch on your counter, and move to the next branch.
2. In high priority areas, inspect a minimum of 4 branches per tree. If there are only a few high priority trees, inspect up to 20 branches per tree. If there are many high priority trees, inspect only 4 branches per tree so that your survey includes a broader sampling of trees.
3. If you encounter a possible hemlock woolly adelgid, clip the branch, double bag it, label the bag with date, site, observer, and sample number. Tag the tree and note the location on the data sheet.
4. Continue the survey even if you find one or more suspected hemlock woolly adelgid. Not all suspects will be hemlock woolly adelgid, so it is important to finish the survey of all 200 branches before leaving the site.
5. Sketch a map to help locate the survey area, or attach a map to the data sheet.
6. Deliver any collected hemlock woolly adelgid samples to the Forest Biology Lab for identification.
7. Keep a copy of the data sheet and send the originals to Barbara Burns as soon as completed.