



NORTHEAST-MIDWEST
**STATE FORESTERS
ALLIANCE**

Updates from NMSFA Forest Health Committee

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About NMSFA

State forestry agencies in the 20 New England, Mid-Atlantic, and Midwest states, and Washington DC

Supports states to achieve joint forest management, conservation, and protection goals

Eight committees with experts from state forestry agencies, USDA Forest Service, and other federal and non-governmental partners



NMSFA Forest Health Committee

Technical input, advice, and recommendations on current and emerging forest pest issues

Promote better understanding, emphasis, and support for forest health and invasive pest issues in Northeast-Midwest states

Strengthen communications between the forest health community, NMSFA, and partners



Forest Health Needs List

First developed in 2007 to inform state foresters what issues were top forest health priorities

Major revisions in March 2019

- Priorities by sub-regions
- Target needs list to any stakeholders who might find it useful
- Bring focus to goals regarding resource concerns
- Include needs to address pests and concerns that threaten resource goals

http://www.northeasternforests.org/content/fhc_page



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Goal	Threats	Needs
Maintain healthy eastern hemlock in forest and urban forest landscapes	Hemlock woolly adelgid and elongate hemlock scale	Continued support for the National HWA Initiative which supports outreach, survey, suppression, and technology transfer
Maintain healthy oak species in forest and urban forest landscapes	Gypsy moth	Funding for the eradication, Slow the Spread, and suppression programs
	Oak wilt and bacterial leaf scorch	Continued development of alternative management strategies
	Rapid white oak mortality	Support research on cause and development of management options
Restoration of forest and urban forest landscapes impacted by invasive species	Asian longhorned beetle, beech bark disease, beech leaf disease, butternut canker, chestnut blight, Dutch elm disease, elongate hemlock scale, emerald ash borer, hemlock woolly adelgid, southern pine beetle, spotted lanternfly, thousand cankers disease	Formation of an Eastern U.S. Coalition for Forest Tree Breeding

Mid-Atlantic Sub-region



Forest Tree Breeding Coalition

Major loss of tree improvement programs over the last 40 years

Need for development of nursery stock resistant/tolerant to invasive forest pests to recover damaged forests

Coordinated effort among states and federal agencies is necessary

FH Committee developed proposal for Eastern States Coalition for Forest Tree Breeding and presented to state foresters



Forest Tree Breeding Coalition

State Partners

- Decide which trees species will be targeted
- Provide funding
- Provide resources as available:
 - “Lingering” trees
 - Nurseries for propagation
 - Staff specialists



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Forest Tree Breeding Coalition

Other Partners

- Federal agencies
 - Grant funding
 - Tree improvement specialists
 - Guidance from successful programs in the northwest US
- Tribes
- Non-governmental organizations
- Canadian provinces





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The FHC recommends NMSFA State Foresters:

- Endorse and participate in the Coalition
- Encourage colleagues in Southern Group of State Foresters to also participate
- Request funding and participation by the Forest Service