

The Alaska IPM Outreach Program

Alaska Integrated Pest Management (AKIPM) Program, started in 1981, has become the most recognized and successful educational outreach program of the University of Alaska Fairbanks, Cooperative Extension Service (UAF-CES). The AKIPM Program addresses the public need for pest management education in Alaska. Offering non-biased, research based information, this resource is widely used by residents across the state.

Integrated Pest Management:

Adhering to the principles of the IPM Road Map, this program supports a least toxic, most effective, economically sound, and environmentally responsible approach to pest control by offering clientele a wide range of pest management alternatives.



The Alaska IPM (AKIPM) program operates with a faculty oversight committee, two full time staff members and eight seasonal IPM Technicians, placed within strategic urban and rural centers, statewide. These combined staff form an experienced and talented AKIPM team responsive to a diverse public, which includes urban and rural residents, educators, youth groups, community agencies, agricultural and horticultural producers, garden clubs and the green industry. This AKIPM team raises the pest management awareness level of more than 14,000 Alaskans and tourists, annually.

Statewide Annual Program OUTPUTS

- Approximately 14,000 IPM clients are provided with IPM education.
- Over 2,000 insect, plant, and disease specimens are identified.
- More than 100 educational presentations and displays are delivered.
- Technicians place approximately 300 Delta traps, in 20 communities across the state, monitoring for the Asian & European Gypsy moth.

Services Provided

- Evaluation and diagnosis of plant disorders.
- Site visits to examine tree health disorders in the field.
- Identification of insect, plant and disease specimens.
- Researching information about pest biology & lifecycles.
- Recommendation of IPM control options to reduce pest problems.

Outreach Methods

- CES & USFS Publications distributed
- Classes and field workshops
- Presentations to Community Councils
- Broadcast media appearances
- Newsletter and newspaper articles
- Displays at public events & conferences
- On-site visits for property & home owners
- Phone, office, mail, and e-mail contacts

Early Detection & Prevention



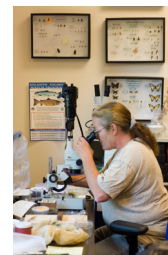
The AKIPM team also serves as proactive, first detectors through the performance of daily monitoring, trapping and educational outreach to help prevent destructive, imported pests from becoming established in Alaska's forests, woodlots, agricultural fields, home gardens and greenhouses. This work facilitates early detection and rapid response, helping to safeguard Alaska's natural resources.



Cooperative Extension Service Mission Statement:

The Cooperative Extension Service mission is to interpret and extend relevant research-based knowledge in an understandable and usable form; and to encourage the application of this knowledge to solve the problems and meet the challenges that face the people of Alaska.

This unique statewide IPM program is a cooperatively funded effort, combining the resources of UAF-CES, the USDA Forest Service Region 10 Forest Health Protection and the USDA Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (CSREES), with additional contributions from the State of Alaska Division of Agriculture and the USDA Western Plant Diagnostic Network.



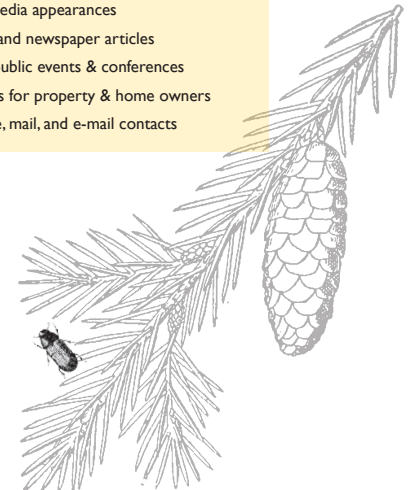
Utilizing the Western Plant Diagnostic Network (WPDN)
IPM staff examine specimens with digital microscopy and photography to quickly facilitate the identification of unknown plants, insects and diseases.

Photos by Edwin Remsburg USDA/CSREES

Since 2000, IPM Technicians have identified the western spruce sawfly, *Pristiphora jeffreyana*, five separate times on imported nursery stock and subsequently advised landscape managers on eradication. With expanded monitoring and outreach, this pest has NOT become established in Alaska.
Photo by C. Rice



Community Forest Health Monitoring Success Story!



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