



Where Have All the Aphids Gone?



Wingless female soybean aphid on soybean

Researchers at Purdue University, Iowa State University and the Illinois Natural History Survey are working to determine the potential of selected *Rhamnus* (buckthorn) species and closely-related species to serve as overwintering host plants for the soybean aphid. In addition, movement to and from soybean is being monitored to determine how environmental conditions in the Midwest affect the soybean aphid's life cycle. Results from this research will assist producers in identifying potential additional soybean aphid host sites in the North Central region. This project was funded by the USDA-CSREES North Central Region IPM Grants Program, and is administered through the North Central Region IPM Center.

For more information regarding this project, please contact:

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Wingless female laying an egg on buckthorn



Winged female on soybean

Multi-regional Training Teleconference for Corn Rootworm Management

Mark your calendars for the upcoming multi-regional Corn Rootworm Management Training Teleconference that will be conducted on February 4 and 11, 2005 from 9:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. The curriculum will be comprised of two modules and individuals should plan to participate in both sessions to fully benefit from the program. Numerous sites in the North Central and Northeastern regions will host the program. Future issues of the Connection will provide additional information.

Participants Evaluate Sudden Oak Death Training

Evaluations from the Sudden Oak Death training teleconference are available on-line at:

<https://webs.aces.uiuc.edu/athome/suddenoakdeath/overallResults.asp>

We have received evaluations from 22 of the 40 states that participated in the training teleconference conducted on October 26, 2004. The responses from those completing the evaluation forms were very positive.

Overall, evaluations indicated the majority of those in attendance represented master gardeners (35%) and employees of a government agency (56%) including Extension, USDA, APHIS, State Departments of Agriculture, U.S. Forest Service and others involved with Sudden Oak Death regulatory issues.

Attendees' responses are listed below:

Teleconference met my expectations:	99%
Teleconference increased my knowledge about sudden oak death	99%
Teleconference increased my ability to identify sudden oak death	96%
Teleconference increased my understanding of IPM strategies	84%*

* Many attendees understood the only IPM tactic currently available for management of *Phytophthora ramorum* (sudden oak death) is destruction of infected plant material, although some individuals indicated they did not consider destruction of infected plant material an IPM strategy.

For more information on Sudden Oak Death, please visit our web site at <http://www.ncipmc.org/sod/>. The training teleconference PowerPoint that includes the audio portion of the presentation is currently available on the web site. If you would like to receive a CD that contains a copy of the PowerPoint presentation with audio overlay, please send an email to Susan Ratcliffe, North Central IPM Facilitator, at sratclif@uiuc.edu.

If you would like state specific information regarding Sudden Oak Death, please contact your state representative from the list provided on the following page.

North Central IPM Center Steering Committee Provides Recommendations

Members of the North Central Region IPM Center Steering Committee (members are listed in the June, 2004 issue of the Connection, <http://www.ncipmc.org/Connection0604.pdf>) met November 4-5, 2004 in Indianapolis, IN, to review the programs and projects implemented by the North Central Region IPM Center. Discussions focused on the new Working Groups (announced in the October, 2004 issue of the Connection, <http://www.ncipmc.org/Connection1004.pdf>), the Center's Advisory Committee, the new role of the IPM Extension Coordinators as state contacts for the Center and future funding opportunities. In early December, a new Request for Applications (RFA) will be released to fund IPM implementation projects. A total of \$350,000 will be available with a funding limit of \$85,000 for each proposal submitted to the program. To view the RFA, please visit www.ncipmc.org/extrfa.



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