



Entomological News

YEAR-END RECAP—2020

Emerald ash borer (*Agilus planipennis*)

This year, Kansas Department of Agriculture’s efforts to survey for emerald ash borer (EAB) had been greatly derailed due to the COVID-19 pandemic. However, a trap tree in Seneca, Nemaha Co. was successfully established and two-year trap trees in Brown Co. and those previously setup in southeastern Kansas were surveyed for presence of EAB larvae. While no trap trees were found to have any EAB larvae and therefore no additional counties were found to be infested, additional evidence has shown that there is a high likelihood Brown Co. has EAB. Brown Co. and additional peripheral counties will be targeted for EAB survey work in 2021.

Brown marmorated stink bug (*Halyomorpha halys*)

We continue to monitor for the spread of brown marmorated stink bug in Kansas. As a relatively novel invasive for Kansas, we continue to see a steady infiltration westward after its initial detection near Lawrence, Douglas Co. in 2004.

45 traps were set up in total and two traps in Leavenworth Co. had positive detection. Leavenworth Co. is newly recorded as positive (Fig. 1).

Gypsy moth (*Lymantria* spp.)

Continued efforts to monitor for and intercept gypsy moth in Kansas has fortunately not resulted in any positive detections. 27 traps were put up in high traffic areas of interested and no traps detected any specimens

(Fig. 2).

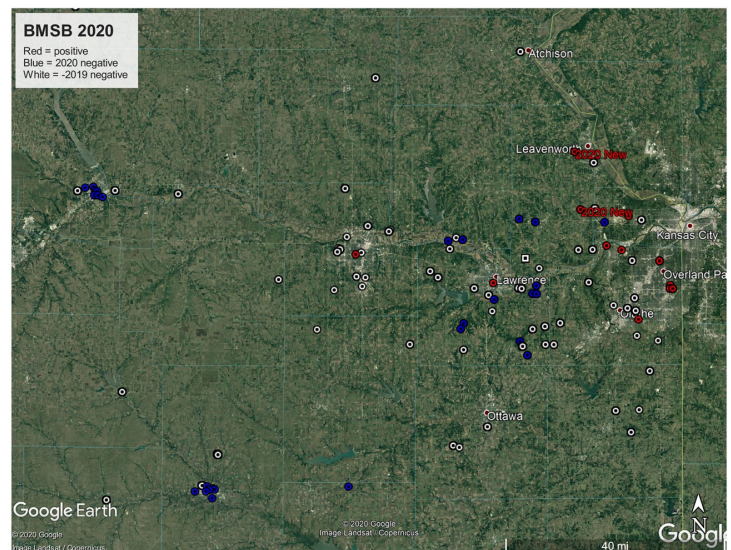


Figure 1. Trapping and detections of brown marmorated stink bug in Kansas from 2020.

Japanese beetle (*Popillia japonica*)

We continue to survey for Japanese beetle in Kansas. 17 traps were set up in un-infested counties and Neosho Co. was found infested for the first time. This new detection brings Kansas to a total of 45 infested counties, or 42.9% of counties infested (Fig. 3).

Walnut twig beetle (*Pityophthorus juglandis*)

This year Kansas Department of Agriculture continued its survey for walnut twig beetle, the primary if not

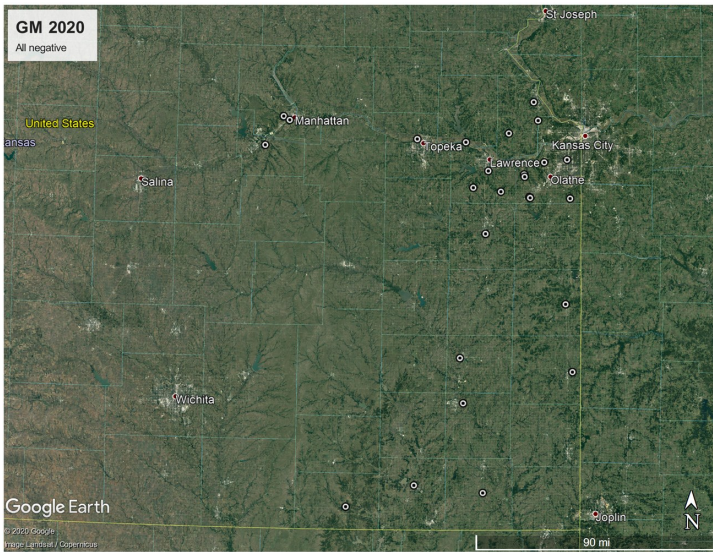


Figure 2. 2020 trapping for gypsy moth.

sole vector for *Geosmithia morbida*, the fungal disease agent that is responsible for thousand cankers disease of walnut. 50 species-specific pheromone baited Lindgren funnel traps were setup in northcentral Kansas.

Compared to last year, traps were not afflicted with excessive rainwater and were cleaner and more

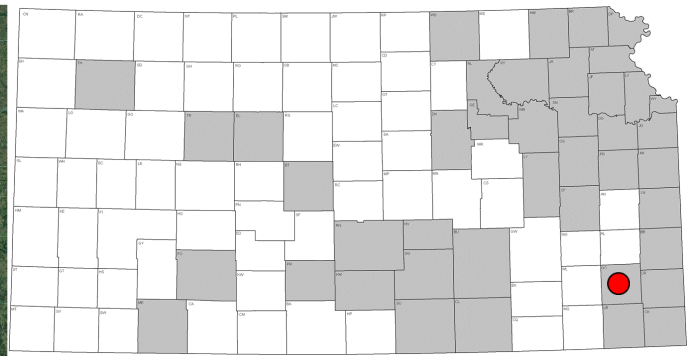


Figure 3. New detection of Japanese beetle in 2020.

promising. Four specimens and three species of bark beetles (Curculionidae: Scolytinae) were trapped in our efforts this year: *Scolytus shevyreior*, *S. muticus*, *Xyleborinus sax-esenii*. These three species are notable as legacy invasives: species that are introduced but have been established in the US for an extended period of time. Notably, *S. shevyreior* was first reported from the US in 2003, but due to the difficulty of distinguishing it from other native *Scolytus* species, had evaded detection for decades. In fact, there are records of *S. shevyreior* from Kansas stemming back to at least 2003.

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