

# Invasive Hemlock Health Threats in Maine: A Pair of Suckers

## Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

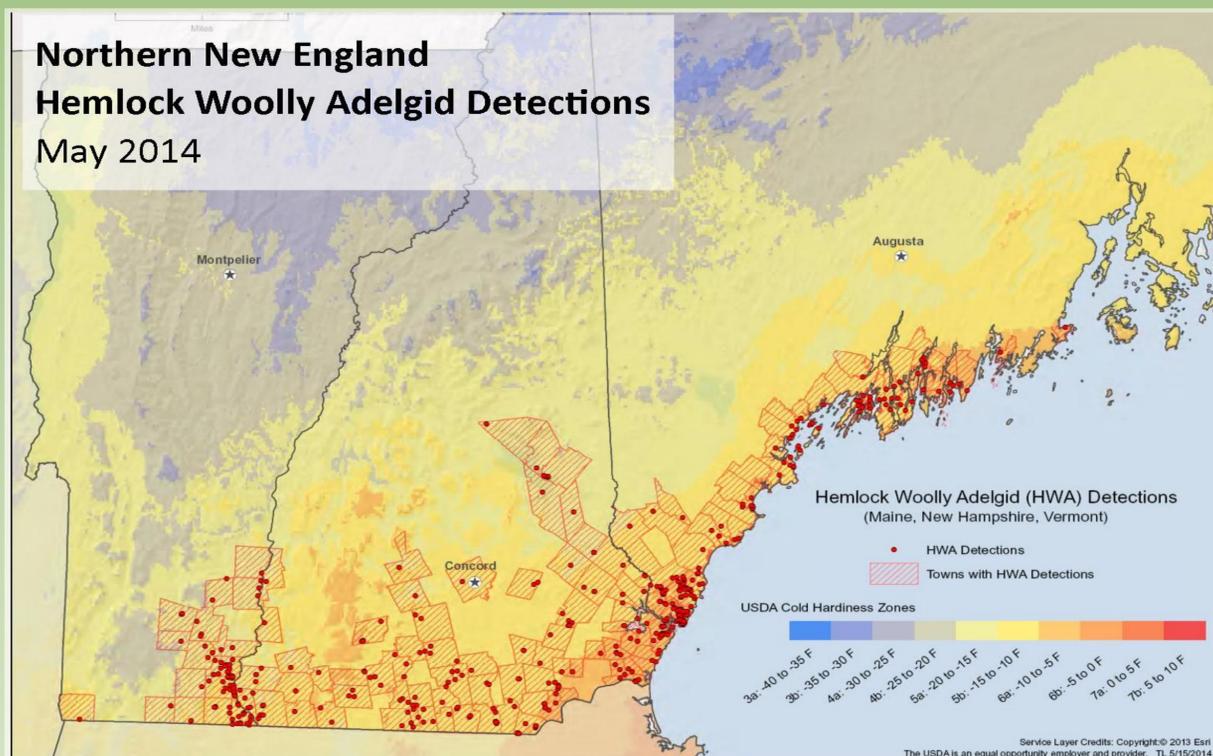
Michael Montgomery, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org



Hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA) is an introduced, insect that kills eastern hemlock. HWA pierces hemlock needles with sucking mouthparts, and injects the tree with toxic saliva. HWA affects all species of hemlock, but not other conifers.

### On Hemlock, Look For:

- Small, white woolly masses at the base of needles on undersides of hemlock twigs. Most visible late fall – early summer
- Off-color needles, often with a grayish cast
- Premature needle drop and twig dieback



## Elongate Hemlock Scale

Elongate hemlock scale (EHS) is a close relative of HWA. It often infests trees after HWA becomes established. It feeds on the juices in the needles, causing them to dry and fall off. Keep a lookout for EHS where HWA is found. This insect infests fir, spruce and other conifers.

### On Hemlock, Fir and Spruce

#### Look For:

- Scale coverings: smooth, waxy yellow-brown or fluffy, white (male) on undersides
- Yellow spots (mottling), and waxy material on upper surfaces of needles and branches.
- Crown thinning, needle loss, branch dieback



If you think you have seen these pests, note the location and contact the Maine Forest Service at (207) 287-2431 or toll-free (in Maine) 1-800-367-0223, [allison.m.kanoti@maine.gov](mailto:allison.m.kanoti@maine.gov)

Web Address: [www.maine.gov/forestpests](http://www.maine.gov/forestpests)



Maine Forest Service