



Up Date on Thousand Cankers Disease

In "Another Forest Health Threat Confirmed in Tennessee: Thousand Cankers Disease Affecting Walnut¹", the thousand cankers disease had just been detected in Tennessee. Dale Starkey, Forest Pathologist, US Forest Service, Pineville, LA has informed us that "surveying for thousand cankers disease of black walnut in additional TN counties surrounding Knox has resulted in symptomatic "suspect" trees being detected in 17 of 18 counties. Sampling of suspect trees to confirm the presence of the twig beetle and canker fungus is ongoing. While I have not seen any official news release or published report yet from TN, there have apparently been confirmations of the disease in 3 additional counties to date beyond Knox -- Anderson, Blount², and Union. Sampling continues, so this number may increase. It certainly appears from results such as these that the complex has been present for quite some time even though dieback and mortality have only recently become highly noticeable. It remains to be determined if Knoxville and Knox County are a locus of disease from which spread has occurred or whether the affected trees are the result of spread from another point of introduction or what.

Adjacent states and areas would be well advised to implement detection surveys and public education efforts in hopes of slowing spread.

North Carolina is finishing up some surveying this week in western counties bordering TN. Departments of Agriculture in many states have implemented quarantines." A **Pest Alert**³ has been put out by the USDA Forest Service NA-PR-02-10 August 2010.

For more information, contact your Mississippi Forestry Commission Local Office or T. Evan Nebeker
tevannebeker@bellsouth.net

For more information on the Forest Health Program, contact:

Randy Chapin
District Forester, Southwest
P.O. Box 749
515 County Farm Lane NE
Brookhaven, MS 39602-0749
601-833-6621
rchapin@mfc.state.us

¹http://www.mfc.ms.gov/pdf/Mgt/FH/2010/TB35_ThousandCankers_Disease_Walnut.pdf

²<http://www.thedailytimes.com/article/20100922/BREAKING/100929976>

³http://na.fs.fed.us/pubs/palerts/cankers_disease/thousand_cankers_disease_low_res.pdf