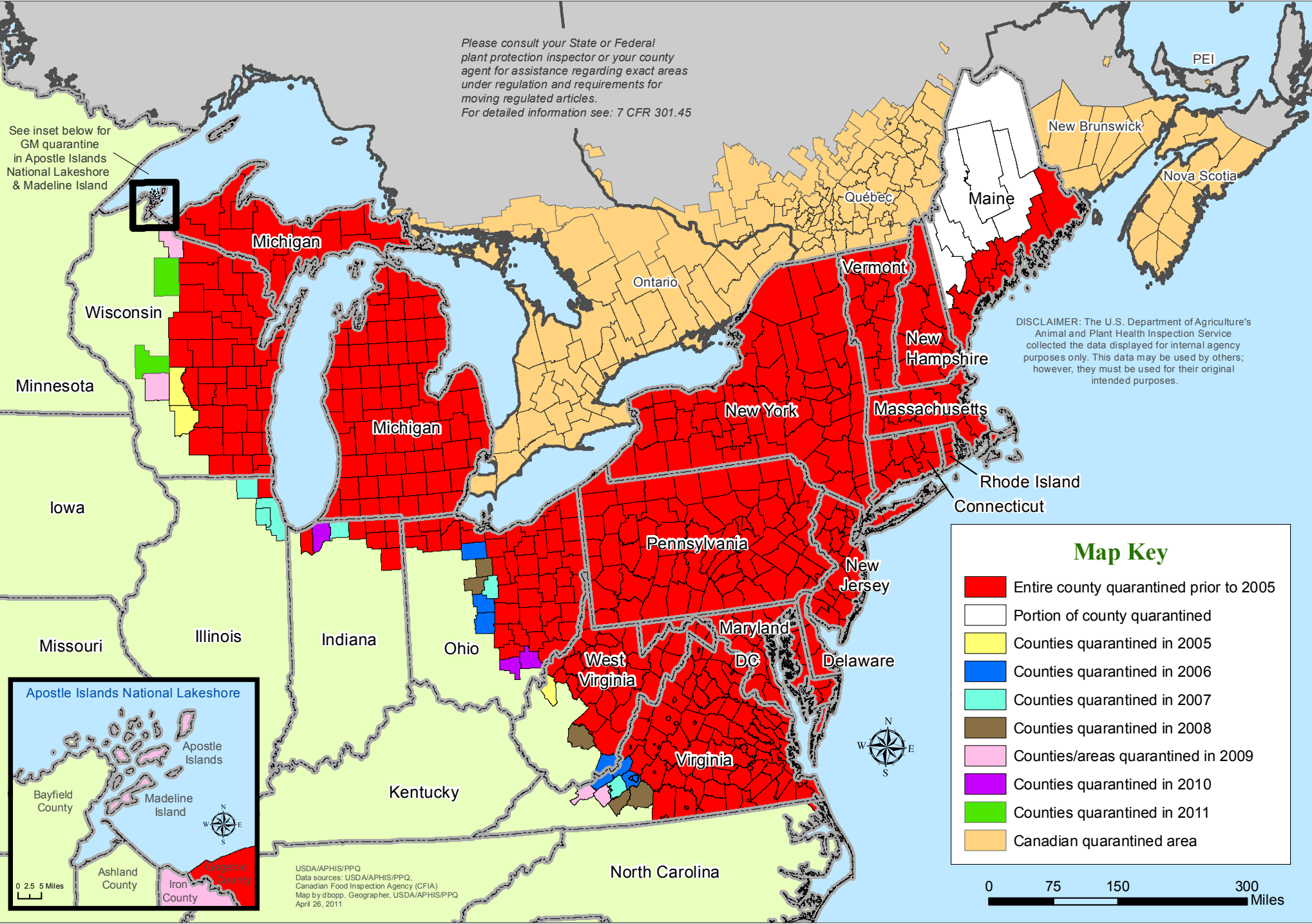




European Gypsy Moth (*Lymantria dispar*) North America quarantine



FACTSHEET

Gypsy Moth

IOWA

Since its introduction into the United States in 1869, the gypsy moth (*Lymantria dispar*), a pest of trees, has defoliated thousands of acres of hardwood forests across the Northeastern United States. Originally introduced into Massachusetts, the Gypsy moth has slowly spread north to Maine and south to North Carolina, infesting 19 States and the District of Columbia. Despite State and local control efforts, the infestation continues to move south and west.

Questions and Answers:

Q. What is Gypsy Moth and why is it a pest?

A. The gypsy moth is a destructive forest pest that threatens our trees in Iowa. The caterpillar stage of the moth is very destructive, and feeds on over 500 species of trees and shrubs. Once established in an area, the caterpillars strip leaves from many trees. After repeated defoliations, the trees typically die. The caterpillar has 5 pairs of blue dots, and 6 pairs of red dots along their top side and grow to almost 3 inches long.

Q. What is being done?

A. The goal of USDA-APHIS-PPQ is to define the extent of the gypsy moth infestation and limit its artificial spread beyond the infested area through quarantine and an active regulatory program. A survey is conducted each year using pheromone traps to detect any gypsy moths that could be introduced into the area. The artificial spread of the moth is controlled by a quarantine that regulates movement of gypsy moth host material from gypsy moth infested areas to other areas of the United States. This program is an effective Federal-State partnership that prevents the establishment of gypsy moth in areas of the United States that are not contiguous to current regulated States and counties.

Q. What items are restricted from moving freely from the quarantined areas?

A. The following can only be moved from a quarantined area with federal approval: (1) Trees and woody shrubs, including rooted and cut Christmas trees. (2) Logs, pulpwood, and bark and bark products. (3) Mobile homes and associated equipment. (4) Outdoor household articles, such as awnings, barbecue grills, bicycles, boats, dog houses, firewood, garden tools, hauling trailers, outdoor furniture and toys, recreational vehicles and associated equipment, and tents. All of these items listed in this section are called 'regulated articles'

Q. What is my role?

A. Become an active participant and support the Program. Don't move regulated articles. Know the State and Federal regulations, and spread the word about gypsy moth and ask questions. Also, if you notice any activity or situation involving moving of regulated articles out of a quarantine area, use the contact information listed on this factsheet.

Q: Where are the areas quarantined for Gypsy Moth?

A: In general, the northeastern US is quarantined from Maine, south to Virginia and part of North Carolina, and over to eastern Wisconsin. The quarantine map is shown on the reverse side of this factsheet. For the most current quarantine map, go to following website: http://www.aphis.usda.gov/plant_health/plant_pest_info/gypsy_moth/downloads/gypmoth.pdf

Q. Is there any way I can legally receive GM regulated articles such as trees, shrubs, logs, lumber, Christmas trees, bark, and bark products quarantined areas?

A. Yes, the first step is to contact either the USDA-APHIS-PPQ, or IDALS for assistance. Regulated articles are allowed to move freely out of a quarantine area, if they have been certified to be free of gypsy moth, by APHIS-PPQ or other authorized entities such as a State agency or a company under a compliance agreement. Also, regulated articles are allowed to move under a limited permit, by USDA-APHIS-PPQ or authorized entity, to an approved limited destination. The limited destination is usually under a compliance agreement to receive the regulated articles.

Q. What is a compliance agreement, certificate and limited permit and how do I obtain them?

A. A certificate is issued by USDA-APHIS-PPQ or authorized state agency or company that certifies that the regulated article has met the conditions of the quarantine and is allowed to move freely. A limited permit is issued by USDA-APHIS-PPQ or authorized state agency or company, that allows the regulated article to go to a specific area, such as a mill approved to receive the regulated article. A saw mill would be a good example. Compliance agreements are documents simply written agreements between a person moving regulated articles and the Iowa Department of Agriculture and USDA where you agree to comply with the requirements of the agreement.

For additional information or questions please call or write to:

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United State Department of Agriculture
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Plant Protection and Quarantine
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