

BORER INFESTATION DISTRIBUTION



a: no borers
b: quite a few borers
c: many borers

OUR OWN BORER SURVEY

PRELIMINARY REPORT

Betty Wood, N.J.

If you want to get a lot of interesting letters, organize a borer survey! Seventy responses came tumbling into my mailbox in reply to the request for information, published in the July, 1980, *AIS Bulletin*. This report will cover only the coded information that could be assembled relatively quickly. It will take more time to digest the detailed information in all the letters and try to give the *Bulletin* readers the benefit of the experiences of their fellow iris growers all over the country.

The first question was: If you never used any preventive measures, which would you have? (a) no borers, (b) quite a few borers, (c) many borers. The accompanying outline map of the United States shows the a, b, and c answers that came in from each state. Although answers from some states were all the same within the state, other states showed some differences within the state which is not surprising, considering microclimates, differences in soils, drainage, closeness of shrubbery, etc. In general, however, the map clearly indicates that the northeastern United States is the trouble area for the borer. Homer Metcalf, reporting no borers in Montana, suggested that the cold dry winters might be the explanation for its absence. Parts of California, New Mexico, and Texas are also dry, but not cold and they are borer-free too. What about Georgia!

The mixed reports from Nebraska, Kansas, Colorado, and Oklahoma suggest that these states mark the western boundary of borer infestation. Is it an advancing or retreating boundary?

Captain Herbert Rommel of Rhode Island has offered to subsidize the sending of postcards to every AIS member next year for a fuller representation of results. One or two answers from a whole state may not be representative.

The answers to the remaining two sections are given in tabular form, by states. The questions were: 2. What preventive measures have you found effective? _____ (Name chemical or procedure). (a) completely effective, (b) moderately effective. 3. When have you seen (give approximate dates) (a) the moth? (b) the pupae? (c) the borer in the leaves? (d) the borer in the rhizome?

Few people have seen the borer moth, which suggests that the statement that it flies at night and hides in the bushes in the daytime may be true. A

naturalist friend of mine catches moths in a moth trap that has a light in it, for use at night. Perhaps we should try to catch the borer moth this way. Have we an enterprising member who could design and manufacture such a trap to sell to irisarians? Would they work? (i.e. the traps, not the irisarians) How about a contest to see who could design the best IBM Trap?

When I shall have read and reread the many letters received I will send a further report to the *Bulletin*.

PREVENTIVE MEASURES

(a) completely effective

Individual comments

(b) moderately effective

separated by commas.

California

None.

Colorado

None.

Connecticut

Cygon (b), Orthene or Isotox in April plus destruction of any observed (b)

Delaware

Dazinin every 7 days (a)

Georgia

None.

Illinois

Dipel & Thurigan & Cygon 2E & Malathion & Sevin none effective, Dyston (b) and Chlordane drench (b), Cygon and destruction (b)

Indiana

Cygon C2 (a), Open windy location and frequent moving (b), Cygon 2E three times in April and May (a)

Iowa

Sevin (b), Cygon 2E soak.

Kansas

Cygon 2 (b), None.

Maine

Cygon 2E (a)

Maryland

Cleanup in April, then Azidrin every week (b)

Tennessee

None, Cygon 2E (a), Cleanup, Cygon 2E twice in March.

Texas

None.

Virginia

Cygon or Isotox (b), Cygon E2 (b)

Wisconsin

Sevin (b), Cygon 2E, Malathion (a)

SIGHTINGS

e, m, and 1 stand for early, middle, and late. a, M, j, J, A, S, and O for the months, in proper order. N means never. Individual comments separated by commas.

State	The moth	The pupae	The borer in leaves	The borer in rhizome
California	N	N	N	N
Colorado	N	N	N	N
Connecticut	S,N	mA, 1J-S	J,mM-mJ	A,J-A
Delaware	N	J-O	mA	mM-eJ
Georgia	N	N	N	N
Illinois	M-A, summer, N	J-S, J on, A-S	a-A, M-J, 1M-J	J-S, J-O, J-A
Indiana	N,N	J-A,N	M,M-j	lj, J-A
Iowa	N,N	A,N	M-j, j-S	lj,S
Kansas	N,N	N,N	mM,N	lj,N
Maine	N	early	N	lj-1A
Maryland	N	eS	j	lj-A
Michigan	N,N,A	A-S,J,J-S	ej,M-j,M-j	mJ-A,J-A
Minnesota	N,N	A,N	j,ej on	J, mJ-mA
Missouri	N,N	N,1A	N,eM on, a-frost	N,J, fall
Montana	N,N	N,J-A	N,mM on	N,j on
Nebraska	N,N	N,N	N,M-j	N,J
New Jersey	N,N	N,N	A,j	A,J,mA
New Mexico	N,N	N,N	N,N	N,N
New York	N,N,N,N	1A,A,eS	jJ,M,J-A,mj	J,A,J,J-O,mj
Ohio	rarely	e-mA,	M-S,m-1M	J, J on
Oklahoma	N,N	N,N	N,a	N,a
Oregon	N	N	N	N
Pennsylvania	O,N,1A,N	S,1A,N,J-A, J-A	1M-J,ej,A-M, ej,eM on	A-S,J,A,1J- eA,J,mj
Rhode Island	N	N	N	N
South Dakota	N	N	N	N
Tennessee	N,N,N,N	N,N,M-S	spring,N,a-M	summer,N,j-S
Texas	N	N	N	N
Virginia	N,N	A-S,N	N,A-j	J-A,A-S
Wisconsin	N,one,N	A,O,N	1M-J,M-j,M-j	J-A,J,1j