

Quarantines On Gypsy Moth To Be Changed

HARRISBURG — Placement of gypsy moth quarantine restrictions on four Northeastern Pennsylvania counties and the lifting of similar bans in three other counties was announced today by State Agriculture Secretary William L. Henning.

He explained that gypsy moth quarantine controls are to prevent spread of the highly destructive pest through egg masses on stones, junk, lumber, shrubbery, timber and similar materials will be subject to inspection by Department agents.

Effective Sept. 10, similar quarantine restrictions placed a year ago will be removed from 24 townships and boroughs in Wayne, Pike and Monroe Counties. These areas were sprayed last May with DDT in a Federal State eradication program.

On Sept. 20, quarantine restrictions will become effective in parts of Luzerne, Carban, Monroe and Lackawanna Counties. Secretary Henning's action results from discovery in July of "an unusual infestation" of gypsy moths near White Haven, Luzerne County. The discovery was several miles outside of any previously known infested area.

Approximately 500,000 acres will be quarantined including the City of Hazleton and the boroughs of Jeddo, Freeland, White Haven and West Hazleton in Luzerne County; East Side, Weatherly, East Mauch Chunk, Landsford, Jim Thorpe, Summit Hill and Beaver Meadow in Car-

Entomologists Seeking Fruit Spray Harmless to Predator Parasites

Last year, parasites attacking the larval stage of the oriental fruit moth disappeared from peach orchards after parathion had been applied. Within two to three weeks, however, the parasites were reestablished. Egg parasites disappeared for three months—from May through July. Cocoon parasites were eliminated for a week longer than the egg parasites.

The experiments are being repeated this summer. Four orchards plots are being sprayed with parathion and four with lead arsenate (lead arsenate has little effect on the oriental fruit moth

or its parasites). Some 100,000 oriental fruit moth cocoons, reared on small green apples in the laboratory, are exposed to parasites in the orchards. Lots of 125 cocoons (five to each 25 trees) are exposed every seven days from mid-May to mid-August. The cocoons are then returned to the laboratory.

There the degree of paratization is evaluated on the basis of the number of parasites and moths that emerge from the exposed cocoons.

Oriental fruit moth eggs also are exposed to parasite attack in the orchards. Twigs, each with a peach leaf containing eggs, are placed in vials of water. The vials are fastened to the trees for two days, then returned to the laboratory and kept in chambers at 80 degrees. Immediately after the normal eggs hatch, examination is made with a microscope to learn the degree of parasitization.

Development of insecticides that do not affect parasites but control destructive insects is a goal of USDA scientists. They're also hoping to work out better ways of applying present insecticides to avoid harming these beneficial parasites.

Research is under way at the ARS entomology laboratory at Moorestown, N.J., with a major peach pest, the oriental fruit moth. Entomologists want to find an insecticide that controls this and other insects but is not toxic to parasites or plants, or dangerous to humans.

And they want to determine if there is a stage in the life of the parasite when it's less susceptible to present insecticides. Experiments are in progress this summer to substantiate results of last year's study of the effect of parathion on the oriental fruit moth parasite populations in peach orchards.

bon County, and Mt. Pocono in Monroe County.

The spread of moths to new areas of Northeastern Pennsylvania was determined by agents of the Bureau of Plant Industry through systematic scouting on more than 3 million acres. Plans are underway to spray DDT from airplanes over the infested area when caterpillars appear next spring.

Quarantines against gypsy moths were first established 25 years ago following an outbreak in Luzerne County. Restrictions were lifted in 1950 when all known infestations were eliminated by airplane spraying of DDT. The ban was renewed in 1955 and again in 1956 when moths were carried by high winds into Monroe, Pike and Wayne Counties from New York.

Henning estimated that approximately \$15 million has been expended by Federal and State governments for control and eradication of the pest since it first came into Pennsylvania. Gypsy moth caterpillars are capable of completely defoliating a wide variety of trees and other types of vegetation. It would cost approximately \$5 million a year if the pest became established statewide.

Rats Carry 'Crooked Snout' Swine Disease

Rats have been shown to be carriers of atrophic rhinitis — a serious swine disease commonly called "crooked snout," the U.S. Department of Agriculture says.

Findings by scientists outside USDA had previously indicated that cats and rabbits were carriers of atrophic rhinitis.

In the USDA studies, pigs contracted the disease under laboratory conditions after receiving inoculations from rats that had previously been instilled with infective material from pigs suffering from atrophic rhinitis. The inoculated pigs not only developed the disease but in some instances developed it sooner than pigs that were inoculated directly with infective material from diseased pigs, scientists of USDA's Agricultural Research Service found.

Atrophic rhinitis was first reported in this country in 1944. It is non-fatal but retards the growth of young pigs. Neither cause nor cure is yet definitely known. A serious threat to the swine breeder, the disease may be transferred to clean herds with swine purchased for breeding purposes.

Persistent sneezing is an early — often the only — symptom. The disease may also cause nose bleeding, nasal mucous discharge, and coughing or irritation of the snout, which causes the pig to rub his nose against some solid object to seek relief. Lesions of-

ten develop in the nasal passages, and in advanced cases the snout as well as surrounding facial features may be twisted and distorted. Pneumonia sometimes occurs as a secondary complication.

In the USDA experiments, pigs developed atrophic rhinitis 15 to 45 days after being instilled with infective material from rats that had been given the disease. Similar pigs instilled with infective material taken directly from the noses of infected pigs took 24 to 51 days to develop the disease. Two-thirds of all pigs experimentally exposed to the infection, either directly from pigs or indirectly through the rat, developed atrophic rhinitis.

This research was conducted over a 3-year period at USDA's Agricultural Research Center, Beltsville, Md.



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Q I own some property and haven't bothered with it outside of paying the taxes and cutting the weeds. About a year ago I found out the party living next to my property is using 10 feet of my lot and has been using it for a number of years. What can I do about this? — E L R.

A Unless the use of the 10 feet of the lot by the neighbor has been open, continuous and notorious and without the owner's consent for a period of twenty-one years or more, the owner has the right to tell the neighbor to stop using this portion of the lot. If this approach does not work, a lawyer should be consulted for advice as to legal steps to be taken in stopping the neighbor's use of the property.

Q A man has a judgment against me. If he dies before the judgment is paid, do I have to pay his heirs? — J H.

A If the holder of a judgment dies before the judgment is paid in full, the judgment would become part of the judgment creditor's estate, and the debtor would have to pay the estate or to whomever the judgment might be assigned by the personal representative of the judgment creditor's estate.

Q A man left his entire estate to his wife. They had no children. The house they owned was bought in his name only and the deed is still in his name. If his widow should die, would the house go to the heirs she has named in her will or can his two sisters claim the house? — F L.

A Assuming that the house was given to the surviving wife under a will, the wife would have legal title to the home upon the death of the husband. At the death of the wife, the property would go to whomever the wife may direct in her will. The husband's sisters would have no claim whatsoever in the house.

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