

FALL WEBWORMS HAVE RETURNED Dr. Robert S. Hansen **Bradford County Extension Forester**

The fall webworm is again busily constructing its ugly nest in forest and shade trees in our area. The fall webworm is a widely distributed defoliating pest of shade trees and shrubs and appears from late summer through early fall. They are particularly fond of nut trees such as black walnut and hickory but they will feed on a variety of spe-

The webworm constructs its nest over the end of the branch and only feeds on leaves within the web. The large conspicuous web is filled with caterpillars, dead, partially-eaten leaves, and fecal droppings. The remains of these nests may persist through

The fall webworm overwinters as brown pupae in a cocoon that is concealed in trash, ground litter, cracks and crevices, or in the soil. Adult moths first appear in early June but may continue to

appear in small numbers during most of the summer. Moths vary considerably in color from pure white to white with black spots; their wingspread is about 11/4-inches. Females deposit their light yellow eggs in hair-covered masses of several hundred eggs, usually on the undersurface of the leaves.

Young larvae hatch in approximately seven days. They immediately begin to spin a silken web over the foliage on which they feed. As they grow, they enlarge the web to enclose more and more foliage. These webs sometimes encompass two-three-feet of the infested branch. The larvae are gregarious and feed together until the last molt, after which they feed independent of each other. Larvae mature in about six weeks.

Young larvae are pale yellow with two rows of black marks along their bodies. When fully grown, they are covered with whitish hairs that spring from black and orange warts. The larvae vary as to the depth of coloring and markings, but are usually greenish with a broad,

dusky stripe along the back and a yellow stripe along the side. Full-grown larvae leave the web and pupate on or in the soil, or in crevices around buildings or fence posts. There are one or two generations per year, depending on the geographical location.

Fall webworm larvae skeletonize and consume leaves under the protection of a tent-like web that they enlarge as they grow and require additional food. Since tree leaves are in the process of "shutting down" their processes this time of year, webworms may defoliate a tree occasionally, but rarely kill it. On shade trees, the webs usually occur on an occasional branch. They may not injure the tree appreciably but they reduce its ornamental value.

Natural enemies of various kinds help to control this insect. Birds, insect predators, and insect parasites attack the fall webworm larvae. Predators and insect parasites may destroy clusters of eggs. It is also possible to reduce their numbers by mechanical control. When the tented branches are within reach, they can be snipped off and destroyed. This is practical if the tents have not become too large and the tree's shape is not threatened by this method.

Bt is effective if applied when the webs are small. Other chemical control measures can be used throughout the webworm season, but they are most effective when the webs are small. The entire tree need not be sprayed, but webs and surrounding foliage should be thoroughly covered.

Cambria Fair Releases **Veal, Other Results**



Kelly Myers, South Fork, is pictured with her grand champion veal at the Cambria County Fair. Reserve went to Krystal Heinlein. Absent are the owners of the grand champion goat, Karen McMullen, who attends Penn State and Clairissa Myers, who had reserve market goat.

GAY BROWNLEE Somerset Co. Correspondent EBENSBURG (Cambria Co.) — Following are results from the recent

Cambria County Fair.

CAMBRIA COUNTY FAIR

VEAL SHOW RESULTS

Class 1: 1. Hope Farabaugh. 2. Hope

Farabaugh
Class 2: 1. Joy Farabaugh. 2 Chad Far-

Class 3 1. Leah Christ. 2. Joy Fara-

Lightweight champion 1. Leah Christ 2 Hope Farabaugh. Class 4: 1. Chad Farabaugh Class 5. 1. Steven Hoffman. 2 Beth

Class 6: 1. Krystal Heinlein 2 Nicole

Farabaugh.
Middleweight champion 1 Krystal Heinlein. 2. Nicole Farabaugh
Class 7: 1 Nicole Farabaugh 2 Krystal

Class 8: 1. Kelly Myers
Class 9: 1. Kelly Myers
Class 9: 1. Kelly Myers
Heavyweight champion 1. Kelly Myers
2. Kelly Myers.

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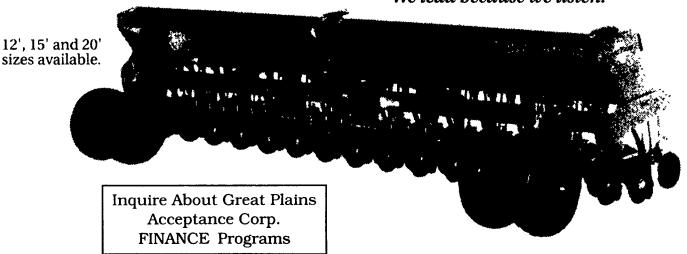
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