





Technical Bulletin for: Forest Tent Caterpillar

Malacosoma disstria (Hübner) • Lepodoptera, *Lasiocampidae* • MALDIS



| | |
|---------------------|--|
| DISTRIBUTION | Found throughout most of the United States and Canada, however more prevalent east of the Mississippi. |
| HOSTS | Oaks and gum are primary hosts. Other common or occasional hosts in the South include basswood, cherry and plum. In the northern and western United States and Canada, trembling aspen is the preferred host. |
| DESCRIPTION | |
| ADULT MOTH | The adult moth is tan and has a broad brown band across the front wings. |
| LARVAE | Dark-gray to brownish-black body color, highlighted by broad, pale-blue lines and thin, broken yellow lines extending along each side. Mature larvae are 50 to 64 mm in length. |
| EGGS | New egg masses are 12 mm long and covered with glossy, dark brown, glue-like material that protects the eggs during winter. |
| LIFE HISTORY | After mating, the female moth lays eggs in 12 mm long clusters wrapped around a twig. Each female lays several clusters of 150 to 200 eggs by early July. Eggs hatch in from mid-April to mid-May. The caterpillars have five growth stages before pupating, each lasting seven to ten days. Adult moths emerge and lay eggs in late June into early July. |

MONITORING INFORMATION

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| LURE ACTIVE INGREDIENT, SUBSTRATE & FIELD LIFE | ZE-5,7-12OH and ZE-5,7-12Ald in a Gray Rubber Septum. Field life: four (4) weeks. |  |
| TRAP TO USE | Red Plastic or Paper Delta Trap |  |
| MONITORING STRATEGY | Check with your local forester for information and recommendations. | |
| CULTURAL & PHYSICAL CONTROL | Healthy trees can often withstand even severe pest outbreaks, so planting and managing for tree species that are well suited to your land and climate will help. It is also a good idea to learn from history. | |

Alpha Scents, Inc.
insect monitoring systems

Alpha Scents, Inc., 360 S. Sequoia Pkwy. Canby, OR 97013
TEL: 503-342-8611 • FAX: 314-271-7297 • sales@alphascents.com • www.alphascents.com