

# West Virginia Department of Agriculture

Walt Helmick, Commissioner



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**NEWS RELEASE**  
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## **WVDA TO TREAT 12,000-PLUS ACRES FOR GYPSY MOTH**

**Charleston, W.Va.** – The West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA), in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture-Forest Service (USDA-FS), will treat approximately 12,171 acres in Grant, Hardy, Pendleton, Pocahontas and Summers Counties to reduce significant impacts of forested lands caused by the gypsy moth.

Treatments will begin around May 9, depending on foliage expansion larva development and weather conditions and are conducted under the WVDA Cooperative State-County-Landowner (CSCL) Suppression Program.

The WVDA anticipates the possibility of significant defoliation in 2016 because of an increase in the gypsy moth population in these areas. The gypsy moth fungus, *Entomophaga maimaiga*, though present, did not prevent the deposit of large, healthy and viable gypsy moth egg masses in 2015.

Gypsy moth treatments will also take place on several state lands throughout West Virginia including Seneca State Forest, Calvin Price State Forest, Pipestem State Park and Lost River State Park.

Any questions concerning the WVDA Gypsy Moth Program should contact: Quentin "Butch" Sayers, WVDA Assistant Director or G. Scott Hoffman, GMCS Coordinator at (304) 788-1066.

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