

61st Annual North Central Forest Pest Workshop



September 24-27, 2012– Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario



NCFPW 2012 Group photo

Overview

The 2012 North Central Forest Pest Workshop was held September 24-27 at the Delta Sault Ste. Marie Waterfront Hotel and Conference Centre in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. The theme was “Invasive Species-- What’s Next?”

Schedule

The meeting began on **Monday, September 24th**, with registration and socializing in the evening. A fungal foray was held on St. Mary’s Island in the afternoon. An evening icebreaker was held in the lounge of a dockside restaurant near the hotel.

Presentations began 8:30 a.m. on **Tuesday, September 25th**.

Posters were available for viewing throughout the day. The focus of the morning session was invasive species, including pathways, policies, and strategies. The afternoon included a session on hardwood pests and a session on softwood pests. The Fun Run/Walk and business meeting were held after the completion of technical sessions.

Participants were divided into two groups for the Field Tour **on Wednesday, September 26th**. In either the morning or the afternoon each group toured the Invasive Species Centre at the Great Lakes Forestry Centre, Natural Resources Canada, and the Ontario Forest Research Institute, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources. The insect-rearing and quarantine facility of the Invasive Species Center employs clean-room technology to support research into invasive and native insects. The other half of the day involved a field trip to OFRI’s 95 hectare arboretum just outside Sault Ste. Marie. There the participants learned about the on-going breeding program for white pine blister rust and observed symptoms and damage caused by Dooks Needle Blight and Pine False Webworm on 5-needle pine species.

On **Wednesday evening**, a banquet dinner was served at the Delta Hotel. The after dinner speaker from Parks Canada captured the group’s attention with photos and narrative of the history of the Sault Ste. Marie canal and lock.

On **Thursday, September 27th**, indoor talks resumed with sessions on emerging pests and updates. The workshop adjourned at noon.

Link to detailed agenda: [AGENDA](#)

Highlights and notables

- There were 102 registered participants, including 15 students.
- Each participant received an lovely insulated, cloth shopping bag. Speakers were thanked with a pint of Ontario maple syrup in a soft wood pouch.
- The meeting venue is located in the lovely waterfront district of downtown Sault Ste. Marie along the St. Mary's River that connects Lake Superior to Lake Huron.
- The peak fall colors of the Algoma Highlands were lovely and the crisp air invigorating.
- For many participants, the "state of the art" insect rearing and insect diet production facilities of the Invasive Species Centre were a highlight of the Field Tour.
- The Business Meeting
 - Election of new Members-at-Large on the Board of Representatives:
 - 2012 meeting location will be Minnesota,
 - Read the complete minutes, posted here: [MINUTES](#)

Registration details

Registration for the 2012 NCFPW was CA\$220.00, which included the ice-breaker, meeting breaks, breakfast on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday mornings, lunch on Tuesday and Wednesday, banquet on Wednesday, and field trip transportation. A reduced rate of \$75.00 was available for participation in a single day. A reduced rate of \$165.00 was offered for students. Accommodation was available in rustic rooms at the Delta Hotel for \$109 per night. A shuttle was arranged by the OMNR to for participants who stayed overnight on the USA side.

Thanks to the organizing committee

The Workshop Organizing Committee included: Richard Wilson - chairperson (OMNR), John McLaughlin (OMNR), Glenna Halicki-Hayden (OMNR), Loretta Shields (CFIA), Jennifer Juzwik (USDA), Chris MacQuarrie (CFS), Pedro Antunes (Algoma University), and Mike Francis (OMNR).

Images from the 2012 NCFPW Field Trip



The group toured the Ontario Forest Research Institute (OFRI) in Sault Ste. Marie. They discussed the status of butternut in Ontario forests and the search for resistance to butternut canker in that species.

During a tour of the OFRI greenhouse facility, Darren Derbowka discussed screening for white pine blister rust resistance.



Images from the 2012 NCFPW (continued)

The field tour included a walk through of the new insect rearing and quarantine facility at the Great Lakes Forestry Centre.



Technical representative from BioForests demonstrated use of Tree-Azin for EAB treatment.



Deb McCullough, Steve Katovich, Toby Petrice, and Jana Albers talk about bark beetles and white spruce.

Images from the 2012 NCFPW (continued)

Pengxin Lu, a research geneticist with the Ontario Forestry Research Institute, discusses ongoing work that is testing families of eastern white pine for resistance to blister rust and using breeding techniques to cross eastern white pine with Eurasian pines. Some of these hybrids are being field tested at this arboretum near Sault Ste. Marie.



A field tour group observes and discusses pine false webworm and Dooks needle blight.