

## Whitemarked Tussock Moth Pheromone Trap

## Multi-Pher Traps

### Introduction

Whitemarked tussock moth (*Orgyia leucostigma*) larvae feed on many softwood and hardwood trees. They have caused significant damage to the forests of Nova Scotia in the past.

The purpose of this survey is to monitor the population across the province. Increased numbers in the pheromone traps will indicate the need for more intense surveys in the fall.

### IPM Contact/Project Leader

Jacqui Gordon (902) 758-7014

### Equipment

IPM will provide the following equipment to the PDO at the Annual PDO Meeting:

1. unassembled pheromone traps
2. petri dishes
3. MSDS for pheromones and Vaportape

IPM will send following supplies to the PDO one week before the traps are due to be placed (according to the current year's PDO Calendar):

1. pheromones
2. Vaportape
3. data sheets
4. list of sample locations

PDO will supply:

1. pencils
2. clipboard
3. mapbook and grid or GPS unit
4. Personal Protection Equipment - latex gloves, safety boots, hard hat, hunter orange clothing

### Hazards or Risks of Special Concern

1. Falling objects in a stand.
2. During hunting season, being in a game habitat.
3. Hazardous material in traps (vaportape).

## **Collection Period**

End of July to early October.

See the current year's Pest Detection Officer Calendar for specific trap placement and collection dates.

## **Site Selection and Trap Placement**

Traps are the plastic reusable Multi-Pher 1 type. The assembly instructions for this trap are included with this email.

Use the grid points supplied to find the trap location. If the location is unsuitable, please select another location and record the grid numbers.

Place trap in a balsam fir stand.

Place the trap 1.8m (6 feet) from the ground and 45cm (18 inches) from the bole of the tree, in an area where it is not openly visible.

## **Collecting the Data and Completing the Field Sheet**

Record the trap location and grid number on the "Whitemarked Tussock Moth Pheromone Trap, Data Sheet" form.

If you change the location, make a note on the form.

At the end of the collection period, empty the contents of the trap into a petri dish or shipping can. Label with the PDO name, trap location, date collected, and "WMTM".

## **Shipping the Samples**

To ship the samples for identification and processing, pack the labelled petri dishes or shipping cans into a box and ship to:

NS Department Natural Resources  
Integrated Pest Management  
PO Box 130  
Shubenacadie, NS  
B0N 2H0                      Attn: Jacqui Gordon

The traps can be dropped off to the Insectary at your convenience in the fall after the surveys are complete.

## Whitemarked Tussock Moth Pheromone Trap Data Sheet

PDO: \_\_\_\_\_

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Placed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Collected: \_\_\_\_\_

Trap No.	Location	Grid Number	
1		E	N
2		E	N
3		E	N

Place traps: Week of 23 to 27 July

Trap Placement:

Use the grid points supplied with your lures to find the trap location. If the location is unsuitable, please select another location and record the grid numbers.

Place trap in a balsam fir stand.

Hang the trap 1.8m (6 feet) from the ground and 45cm (18 inches) from the bole of the tree, in an area where it is not openly visible.

Record date, location and grid number on data sheet.

Collect traps: Week of 1 to 5 October

Place trap catch in petri dish or mailing can. Label with date collected, PDO name, trap location, date collected, and "WMTM".

Send the catch and this completed form to Insectary:

NS Dept of Natural Resources  
 Integrated Pest Management  
 PO Box 130, 23 Creighton Road  
 Shubenacadie, NS  
 B0N 2H0                      ATT: Jacqui Gordon

The traps can be dropped off to the Insectary at your convenience in the fall after the surveys are complete.