

Csóka Gy.; M. Zubrik; B. Hrasovec; M. Tabakovic-Tosic; A. Kunca; A. Hirka; M. Pernek; M., Glavendekic; M. Dautabasic; G. Georgiev; M. Georgieva; A. Hajek , D. Pilarska: **Unexpected rapid appearance and spread of *Entomophaga maimaiga* in Central-Eastern european gypsy moth populations. 25th USDA Interagency Research Forum on Invasive Species, January 7-10, 2014, Annapolis, MD, USA.**

UNEXPECTED RAPID APPEARANCE AND SPREAD OF *ENTOMOPHAGA MAIMAIGA* IN CENTRAL-EASTERN EUROPEAN GYPSY MOTH POPULATIONS

Csóka Gy.; M. Zubrik; B. Hrasovec; M. Tabakovic-Tosic; A. Kunca; A. Hirka; M. Pernek; M., Glavendekic; M. Dautabasic; G. Georgiev; M. Georgieva; A. Hajek , D. Pilarska

SUMMARY

- ▶ GM moth is a major forest health and human ecological issue in many European countries.
- ▶ Its area will be likely to expand due to the climate change.
- ▶ Its forest health importance is likely to grow both directly (more frequent and severe defoliations) and indirectly (more severe „damage chains” triggered).
- ▶ Traditional aerial control is becoming more and more unacceptable.
- ▶ Two countries (Bulgaria and Serbia) have introduced EM in Europe in many waves (between 1996 and 2013).
- ▶ EM has spread west- and northwards at an unexpected speed and for an unexpected distance (ca. 250 miles in 2 years).
- ▶ EM caused dramatic mortality in many CE-European GM populations.
- ▶ The long term impact on forest health will probably be far more beneficial than harmful.
- ▶ The strict host specificity must be proven convincingly on national levels.
- ▶ National, bi-, and multilateral research projects are being formed.
- ▶ A Europe-wide cooperative research proposal is being prepared.