



BOX TREE MOTH ALERT

By Jaden Gimondo, Erin Lizotte, Jeremy Jubenville, and David Lowenstein

Box tree moth (*Cydalima perspectalis*) is a new invasive pest in Michigan that can defoliate and kill boxwood shrubs. Your help in spotting and reporting this pest is critical. Use the information provided below to look for box tree moth (BTM) and report any possible sightings via Eyes in the Field using the QR code below or by contacting your local Michigan State University Extension Office.

Caterpillar damage on boxwood



Ferenc Lakatos, University of Sopron, Bugwood.org



Ferenc Lakatos, University of Sopron, Bugwood.org

The first sign of an infestation is defoliation from caterpillar feeding. Caterpillars remove all leaf tissue except the midvein. If defoliation is observed, check canopy for BTM caterpillars.

Caterpillar identification



Mujezinovic Osman, Faculty of Forestry, Bugwood.org



Ferenc Lakatos, University of Sopron, Bugwood.org

BTM caterpillars have lime green bodies with black stripes, white spots and hairs and a shiny black head. Caterpillars may be present all year.

Moth identification



Szabolcs Sáfián, University of West Hungary, Bugwood.org

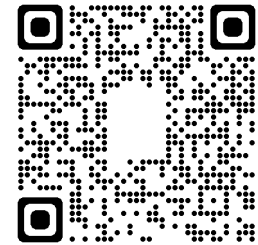


Szabolcs Sáfián, University of West Hungary, Bugwood.org

Adult moths, active from June to October in Michigan, can be either light or dark in coloration, with white forewing spots (circled in red). The light form is typical of N. American populations. Wings are held open at rest.

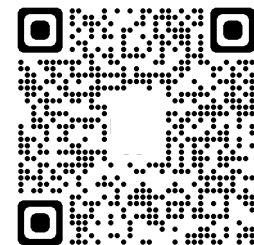
Report

If you believe you've detected the box tree moth, please scan the QR code to report sightings to MDARD's Eyes in the Field or visit www.Michigan.gov/ReportBTM



Learn more

For additional information on box tree moth, including the latest Michigan updates scan the QR code or visit www.canr.msu.edu/tag/box-tree-moth



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