

Forest Pest Alert

Beech Bark Disease

(Cryptococcus fagisuga + Neonectria spp.)



Beech trees weakened by BBD often “snap”



Scale-infested beech

Photos: Michigan DNR Forest Health Program photo archive

- ✓ Beech bark disease (BBD) is caused by a sap-feeding scale insect and a fungus.
- ✓ The scales are covered with white “wool,” turning infested portions of the tree white.
- ✓ The fungus kills the wood, blocking the flow of sap. Affected trees decline in health and eventually die.
- ✓ There are 32 million American beech trees in Michigan. About 2.5 million beech have been killed by BBD to date.
- ✓ Don’t move beech firewood or logs from infested areas to uninfested areas.
- ✓ If you see a tree suspected to be infested with beech bark disease, report it to the following:

517-284-5895 | DNR-FRD-Forest-Health@michigan.gov

www.misin.msu.edu



Learn More:

www.na.fs.fed.us/spfo/pubs/fidls/beechnbark/fidl-beech.htm and
www.baycounty-mi.gov/Docs/Health/GypsyMoth/BeechBark.pdf



Don't Move Firewood!