The Predictive Research of Lymantria Monacha Species within Natura 2000 Cusma Site

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SYMMARY

Lymantria monacha is one of the most dangerous butterfly species, affecting softwood in general (spruce, pine, fir, larch, douglas), but also hardwood in particular. The larvae attack in the beginning the young buds just after their fruit outlets, ending the attack by eating, total or partial, the needles. The species has a large propagation, often leading to the drying of trees, causing up to 60% defoliation (Oltean et al., 2003). For the quantitative evaluation of Lymantria monacha population within Natura 2000 Cusma site, sex attractant pheromone races have been placed during 2008, within the territory of Tihuța-Colibița, Josenii Bârgăului and Bistrița Bârgăului Forest Districts (Proorocu et al., 2007, 2009).

Within Tihuța-Colibița Forest District territory, 27 pheromone races have been installed, distributed both in the young and in the mature brushes. The medium number of individuals/race was 30 and the maximum number of individuals (101) has been collected by race number 4, race that has been placed within a 75 years old forest, formed by a mix of spruce, fir and beech, with a spruce predomination. The recorded annual dynamic is characteristic for the species that develop only one generation per year, with a numerical maximum in the beginning of August.

Within Josenii Bârgăului Forest District territory, 58 pheromone races have been installed in an over 60 years old mature brush, a medium number of 18 individuals/race and a maximum number of 43 individuals/race being recorded. Within Bistrița Bârgăului Forest District territory, 94 pheromone races have been installed in an over 60 years old mature brush, the medium number of Lymantria monacha individuals/race being 47, and the maximum one, 99. The achieved data allows us to conclude the fact that, within Natura 2000 Cusma Site, the attack of Lymantria monacha species is a moderate one, no other detection methods being necessary.

REFERENCES