Invasive insects to watch out for:

A Canadian Plant Health Council initiative.





Canada

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Introduction: Invasive insects, weeds, and plant pathogens put Canadian agriculture and forestry at risk. Early detection is necessary for eradication to have a chance at being successful. The Insect Surveillance Community of Practice has members across Canada who participate in insect monitoring and surveillance, but community scientists can also play a primary role in early detection, assuming people know what to look for.

Objective: To curate a list of easily identifiable (by morphology or plant damage symptoms) insects that could be invasive in or expand their range in British Columbia, the Prairie Region, Ontario & Quebec, and Atlantic Canada.

Methods: The expert group in the Insect Surveillance Community of Practice listed invasive insects of concern by region. From this list, easily identifiable insects or insects with distinctive plant damage symptoms were selected. Pictures for the posters were sourced and used with permission from Community of Practice members, entomological colleagues across Canada, from bugwood.org, and Manaaki Whenua – Landcare Research in New Zealand. Information about the insects was largely sourced from CFIA online resources (https://inspection.canada.ca/plant-health/invasive-species/regulated-pests/eng/1363317115207/1363317187811).

Results: Posters for the four regions of Canada, in English and French were created in spring 2023. The posters were distributed as PDFs to appropriate stakeholders across Canada in summer 2023 and are available online from the Prairie Pest Monitoring Network (https://prairiepest.ca). Observations can be reported using the QR code on each poster; regulated insects should also be reported to the CFIA and the link for reporting is available in the reporting tool.







