Eastern White Pine Management in Massachusetts: The Urban/Rural Interface

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Eastern White Pine in Massachusetts



EWP comprises
15% of all forest
trees >1" dbh
(second only to
red maple) – FIA
2020

USDA Forest Service. 2020. Forests of Massachusetts, 2019. Resource Update FS-239. Madison, WI: U.S. Department of Agriculture Forest Service, Northern Research Station. 2 p. https://doi.org/10.2737/FS-RU-239

Eastern White Pine in Massachusetts



- EWP Abundance in the Managed Landscape
 - Waugh Arboretum at UMass-Amherst: 7%
 - City of Northampton(pop. >28k): 7%
 - City of Springfield (pop. >154k): 1.7%





White Pine Needle Damage (WPND)





White Pine Needle Damage (WPND)



White Pine Needle Damage (WPND)



EWP and Urbanization

RESEARCH ARTICLE	J. For. 116(2):164–177 doi: 10.1093/jofore/fvx004 Copyright © 2018 Society of American Foresters
urban & community forestry	
US Urban Forest Statistics, Values,	
and Projections	isiics, values,
David J. Nowak and Eric J. Greenfield	

- In 2010: RI, MA and CT ranked in top 5 of all states in percent urban land cover
- From 2000–2010: MA had 2nd highest rate of urban land growth
- But... CT and MA rank 1st and 4th in percent urban tree cover



EWP Management in the Landscape

- Storm-related injuries
- Power lines...
- Removal (Fear)

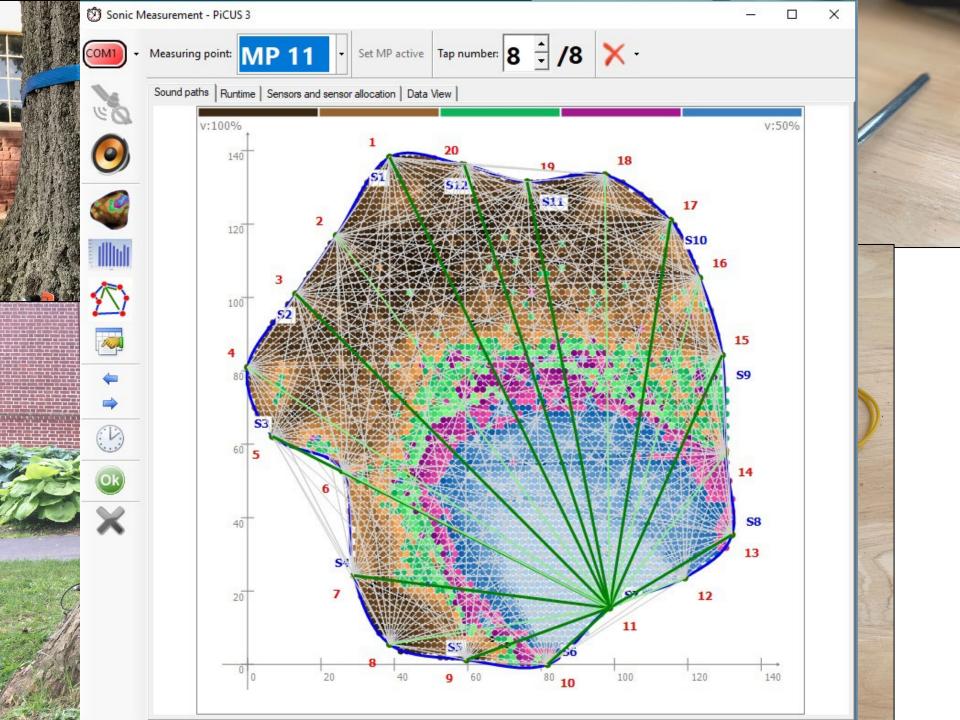


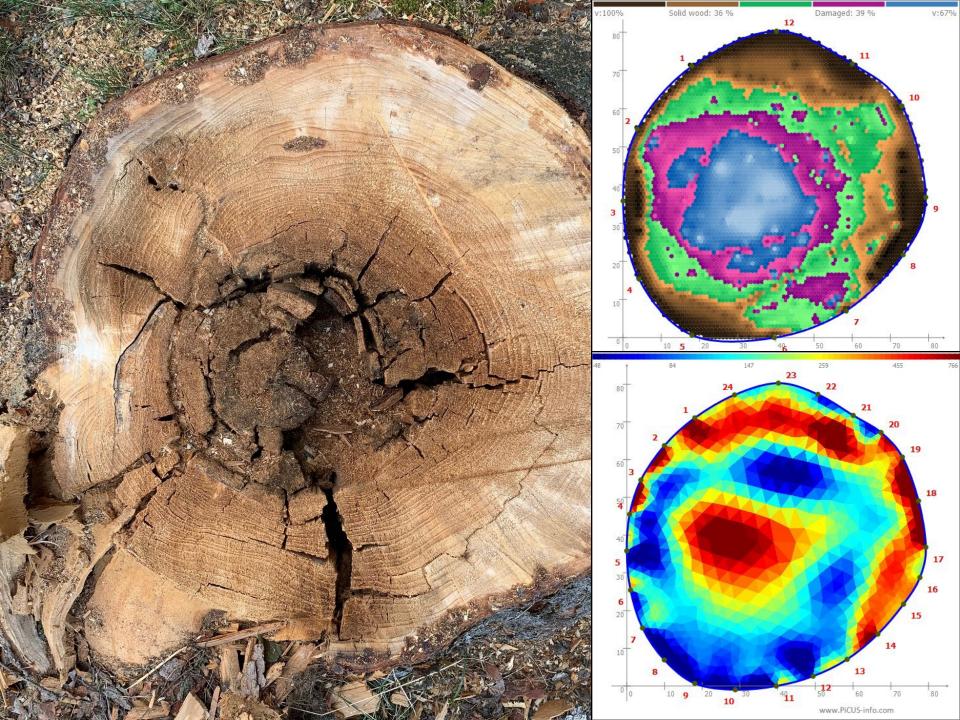




Root and Butt Rot of EWP: Phaeolus schweinitzii

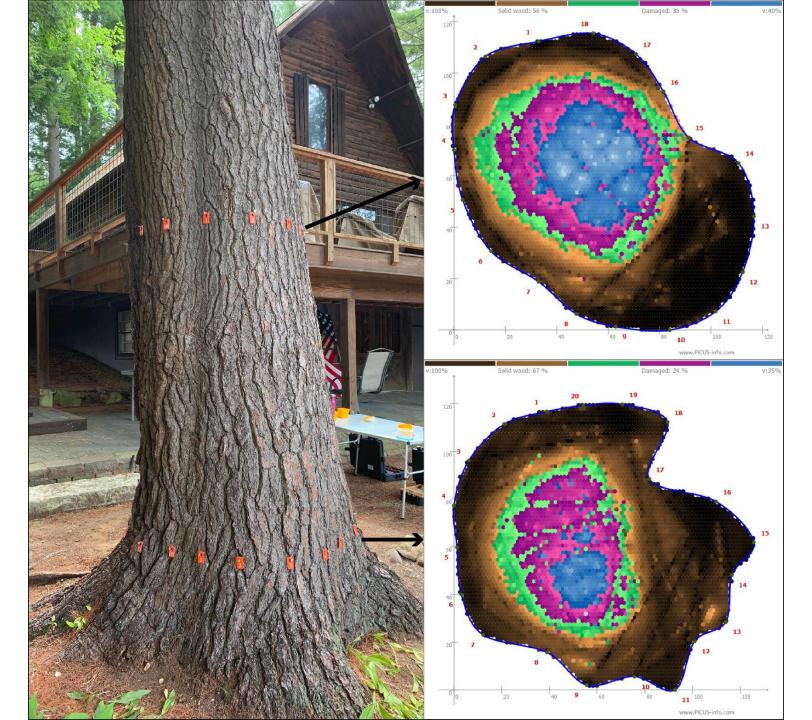






Sonic Tomography





EWP Management in the Landscape

- N-fertilization
- Increase sunlight and space (thinning or removal of neighboring trees)
- Phosphite applications (bark thickness is an issue; soil drenching may be more efficient)
- Foliar fungicides for smaller/specimen trees
 - Locally systemic and protective in rotation



What Does the Future Hold for Eastern White Pine?

- Long-term management of these chronic health issues (same as eastern hemlock)
- Should we plant EWP?
 - One of only two abundant native conifers
 - Fast growth, tolerates a range of sites and soils
 - Moderately tolerant of pollution
 - Not tolerant of de-icing salts
 - Limb breakage and multi-leader stem failure

Are there similar and viable substitutes for EWP? Not Really





Conclusions

- "Right tree in the right place" →
 - Right Cultivar
- Active and better management

Ouestions?

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