



THE CENTRAL PLANT BOARD

Illinois · Indiana · Iowa · Kansas · Michigan
Minnesota · Missouri · Nebraska · North Carolina
Ohio · South Dakota · Wisconsin

CENTRAL PLANT BOARD 2008 Annual Meeting Resolution No. 7 Gypsy Moth Slow the Spread (STS) Foundation

The Gypsy Moth Slow the Spread (STS) program is a collaborative effort that unites ten states, the USDA Forest Service (FS) and Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) in a highly effective pest management strategy. Since its creation in FY 2000, STS has significantly reduced the spread and impact of gypsy moth, which is one of the single most destructive forest pests ever introduced into the United States. Working cooperatively with the Forest Service and APHIS, the states of Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, North Carolina, Ohio, Virginia, West Virginia, and Wisconsin, have developed a novel approach to managing and slowing the advance of Gypsy moth across nearly 51 million acres. It has been calculated that STS has slowed the spread of gypsy moth by 70% and prevented the impacts that would have occurred on more than 75 million newly infested acres

STS has achieved unprecedented success in its unique partnership of multiple states working with two Federal agencies to form a foundation that makes management decisions based on biological need rather than individual matching state funds. This success is highly dependent on maintaining adequate funding and support at the federal level.

In order for states to continue to work effectively and cooperatively with USDA in managing gypsy moth to protect natural and urban forests, funding from FS and APHIS should, at a minimum, be maintained at historic levels of \$10 million. Any reduction in STS funding by FS has the potential to significantly accelerate the spread and destruction of gypsy moth into states that have prime habitat and environment for this insect such that these states would likely suffer devastating losses.

FS and APHIS, and state partners also implement suppression treatments to reduce the damage caused by gypsy moth population outbreaks and eradication treatments to eliminate isolated infestations of the insect. Taken together, STS, suppression and eradication form the three strategies that comprise the USDA national gypsy moth management program.

RESOLVED, by the Central Plant Board at its 84th annual meeting in Madison, Wisconsin on March 14, 2008 that USDA seek funding to fully implement and support the highly successful gypsy moth STS program at its historic \$10 million dollar level, and to fully fund gypsy moth suppression and eradication activities to reduce the damage being caused by the current outbreaks and to eliminate isolated infestations of the insect.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the United States Congress provide adequate funding in the FS State and Private Forestry, Forest Health Protection budget to maintain historic funding levels in the amount of \$10 million in FY 09 for the STS program and provide an additional \$6 million above FY 2008 levels for gypsy moth suppression and eradication treatments.

Distribution:

Cindy Smith, Administrator, USDA, APHIS

Rebecca Bech, Deputy Administrator, USDA, APHIS, PPQ

Abigail Kimball, Chief, USDA Forest Service

Ron Hubbard, Deputy Chief, State and Private Forestry, USDA Forest Service

Dr. Rob. Mangold, Director, Forest Health Protection, USDA Forest Service

Kirk M. Rowdabaugh, President, National Association of State Foresters

Walker Gray Haun, President, National Plant Board

Bob Ehart, NASDA

Regional Plant Board Presidents

