

The Problem: Hemlock Woolly Adelgid

The Hemlock Woolly Adelgid (HWA) is an aphid-like exotic insect that attacks hemlocks, killing trees in Georgia in 3-6 years. HWA is native to Asia where predator beetles hold HWA populations in balance. Hemlocks in the Western U.S. are unharmed because a native predator beetle keeps the adelgid in check. Eastern hemlock species have no effective native adelgid predators. HWA is expected to continue to spread (via wildlife, wind, and people) until it occupies the entire range of eastern hemlock in Georgia.



Photo by CAES

Above: Hemlock Woolly Adelgid infestation on hemlock needles.