

MADISON, Wis. (AP) Wisconsin will take its fight against the gypsy moth to much of the western portion of the state later this year, with aerial insecticide spraying in about one-third of the state's counties.

The spray may start in late spring or early summer depending on the weather, and will last about a month. The Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection plans to start from the south and work northward.

The gypsy moth's appetite for trees and shrubs makes it harmful to the state's timber and paper industries.

Residents can learn about the spraying program at open house meetings from March 12-14 in Madison, Black River Falls and Superior.