

2011 UPDATE: BAD NEWS FOR WINTER MOTHS, GOOD NEWS FOR TREE LOVERS!

The University of Massachusetts states that they have successfully established a biologic control for Winter Moths at four sites in Seekonk, Hingham, Falmouth and Wellesley.

<http://esciencenews.com/articles/2011/09/07/umass.amherst.entomologists.begin.control.winter.moth.infestation.eastern.massachusetts>

A parasitic fly, *Cyzenis albicans*, is the best known natural enemy of the Winter Moth – and in fact attacks *only* this species, not moving on to other larvae. It has taken the scientists a few years to capture a sampling of flies in Nova Scotia and in the Pacific Northwest, and then to breed them in sufficient numbers for release.

Although budget cuts threaten the project, the scientists say efforts will continue to release flies at new locations, because it takes time for only a few thousand flies to catch up with the estimated trillions of winter moths in Massachusetts.