

# The New York Forest Owners Association

## » POSITION STATEMENT «

### **Invasive Species**

#### **Situation Statement**

Invasive species have caused significant losses in forests over the past century. Dutch elm disease and chestnut blight were introduced over 100 years ago and essentially eliminated these two species. Gypsy moth outbreaks caused extensive defoliation of millions of acres of forest land and contributed to the death of an equal number of trees before this non native insect was brought under control using natural agents after seventy years of effort. Invasive species continue to be introduced into forest ecosystems throughout New York State.

- It is impossible to predict what may lurk on the invasive species horizon. As new methods are worked out to deal with upcoming problems, NYFOA will inform its members as to what they are and where more information can be obtained.

Adopted by NYFOA Board 6/9/07

#### **Components of Invasive Species Management**

- NYFOA supports a position on Invasive Species which advocates identification, control, and responsible eradication (where warranted) of pests and diseases which threaten NYS woodlands both public and private.
- As a non-profit organization that seeks to educate citizens about all aspects of the woods, NYFOA recommends education, networking and alertness on the part of members and the general public.
- NYFOA will continue to network with the groups that form the NYS council on Invasive Species.
- NYFOA will bring timely and relevant information about invasive species to our members by listing links on our website, [www.nyfoa.org](http://www.nyfoa.org), newsletters, woods walks and other programs.
- It is of vital importance that our members visit their woodlots frequently; look for problems or unusual events; and report their findings or seek more information from varied sources.
- NYFOA will cooperate with other groups in the state (DEC, Cornell Cooperative Extension, NRCS, etc.) to educate the public concerning invasive species.