

REVIEW OF PESTS OF THE FOREST PARK "RISHCANI", CHISINAU

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In the architecture of the city, the forest park is one of the main elements of green and suburban areas. Monitoring and control of the phytosanitary state of urban green spaces contributes both to the preservation of the appearance of the park, the species diversity of the flora and fauna of the park, and the safety of its visitors. Within the framework of the project 22.80015.7007.261T „Smart solutions and biotechnologies for the sustainable green spaces development under urban environment” we analyzed the species composition of plants in the Riscani park in Chisinau. Growing perennial plant species were identified on the designated experimental sites. The most widespread crops were selected for monitoring the phytosanitary condition, which are found not only in this park area, but also in other forest plantations in Moldova. Therefore, this work is of national importance. The main species in forest plantations, squares and parks of Moldovan cities are varieties of maple, oak, linden, elm, chestnut, etc. The studies were performed according to the traditional methods approved in the Republic of Moldova. This paper presents the results of observations for the period March-July 2022, observations are still ongoing. We have found that on the territory of the Riscani Park almost all deciduous species are affected by different types of aphids (*Aphidoidea* sp.). These are insects with piercing-sucking mouthparts and, in addition to direct negative effects, they are carriers of plant diseases. We also identified the pest of oak, the lace bug *Corythucha arcuata* (Say). In addition to oak, the bug infects chestnuts, elms, currants, hawthorn, plane trees, lilacs. The bug actively feeds on the leaf blade, polluting it with excrements. The rapid increase of the oak lace bug population leads to the complete destruction of the photosynthetic leaves tissue.

The most aggressive quercine pests are found mostly on the leaves: the insects from the fam. *Cynipidae*, the green oak moth (*Tortrix viridana*), the mottled umber (*Erannis defoliaria*), the winter moth (*Operophtera brumata*), the trumpet leaf miner (*Tischeria complanella*), and on fruits- the oak weevil (*Balaninus glandium* Marsh.).

The red pine sawfly (*Neodiprion sertifer*) was identified on conifers, which is the main pest that harms the common, Crimean and mountain pine, eating their needles. The beetle actively flies in the spring period. Its caterpillar feeds on needles. All damaged trees weaken, lose their decorative effect, reduce their growth, and begin to be populated by bark beetles. As a result, in the republic every year we observe a deterioration in the phytosanitary condition of green areas of forest park plantations in the urban environment. Poor phytosanitary condition of the crown can lead to the complete death of the tree and the reduction of green spaces. We consider it necessary to carry out phytosanitary monitoring of park plantings in order to develop a strategy and schemes for plant protection in the park areas of the republic.

Keywords: plant species, diversity, fauna, pests.