

WISCONSIN WILDCARDS

NATIVE PESTS

SERIES 1

#4



EASTERN TENT CATERPILLAR

Malacosoma americanum

BASIC ID

These black and orange caterpillars have a yellow-white stripe down the middle of their backs, blue eyespots and hairs along their sides.

HABITS

The caterpillars make a white silk “tent” in branch forks of cherries and crabapples in May and June. They will leave their tents to feed during the day.

MANAGEMENT

- Apply B.t. (*Bacillus thuringiensis*) before larvae form webs
- Using rubber gloves, pull out tents with caterpillars and plunge into soapy water

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact your local DNR forest pest specialist or UW-Extension county horticultural agent.

Photo: Linda Williams, WI DNR
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PUB-FR-218d 2002

