



kennisateller voor boom en bodem

www.terranostra.nu

Oak processionary moth

Our experience in the Netherlands

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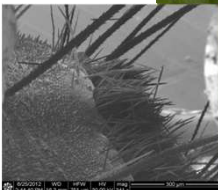
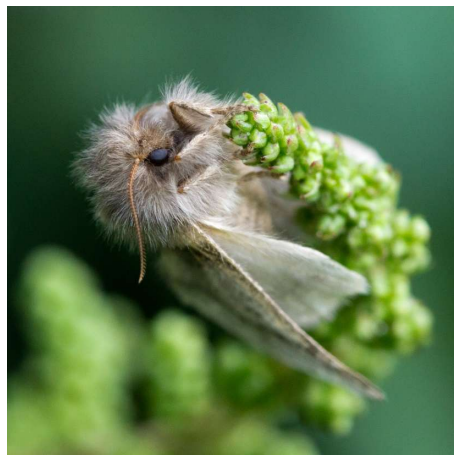
12th of November 2025

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The oak processionary moth

Thaumetopoea processionea



Larvae, L6

6 stages, 5x molting

Adult phase

Moth stage

2

Distribution of OPM

The Netherlands

- 1750 – 1910: seen 57 times
- 1878: Earliest record - Nijmegen
- 1987: start of OPM population in Reusel
- 1987-2025: has been present ever since



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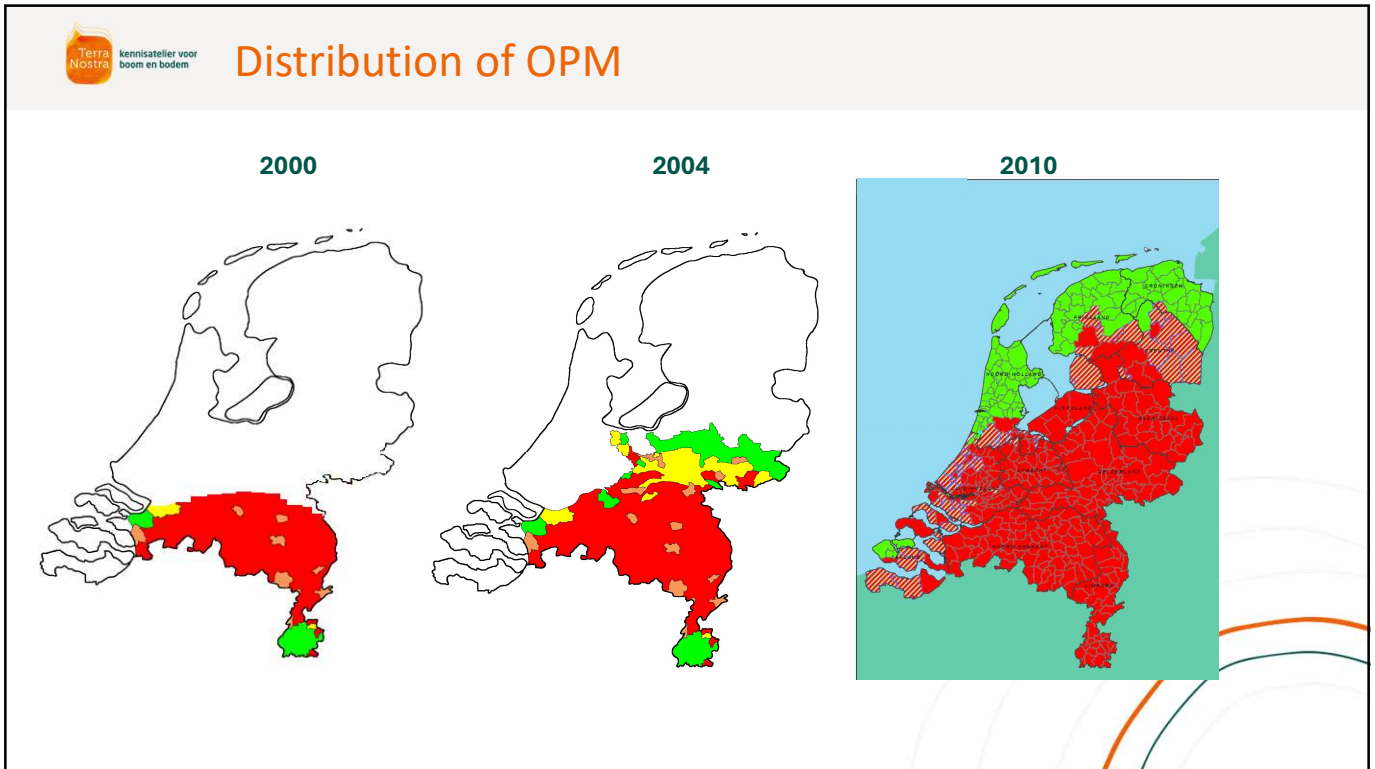
Distribution of OPM

The Netherlands

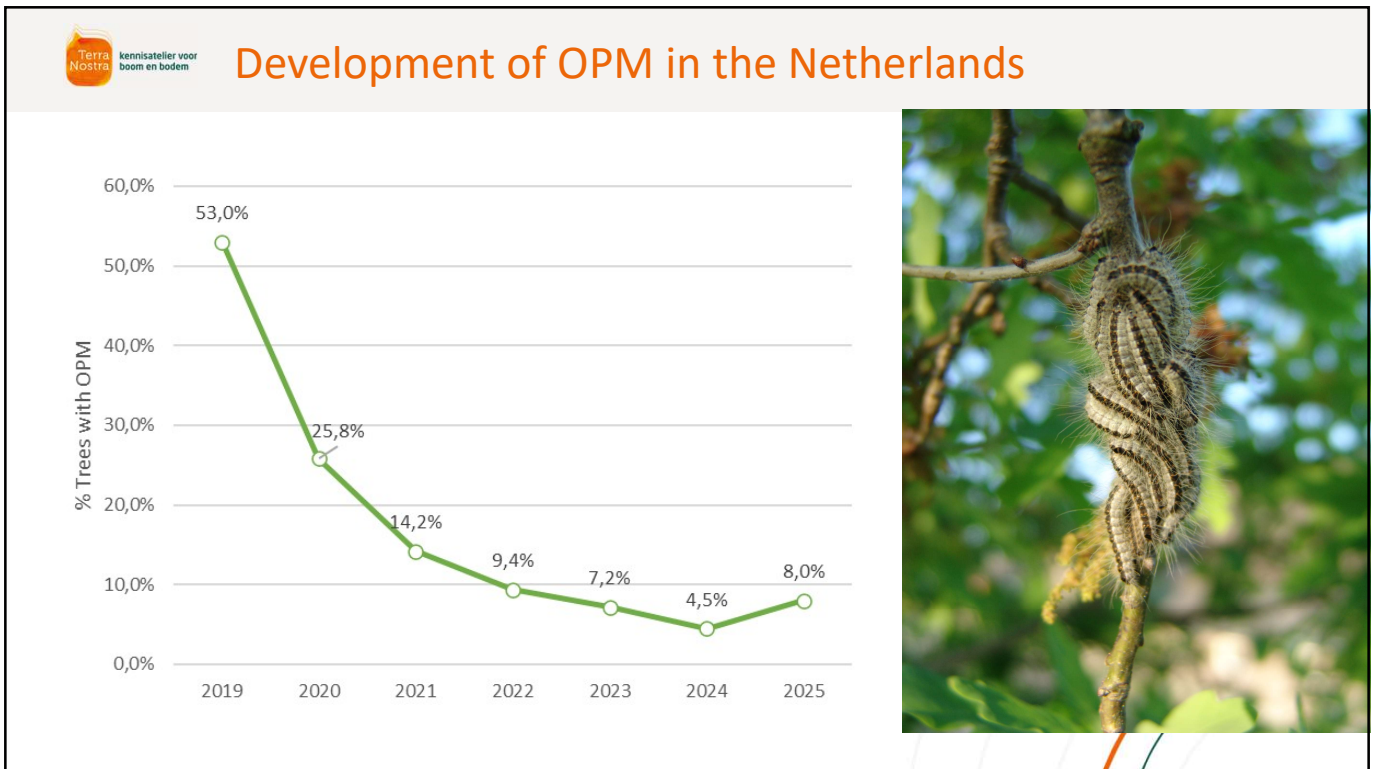
- 1996: first heavy outbreak during the start of the Tour de France



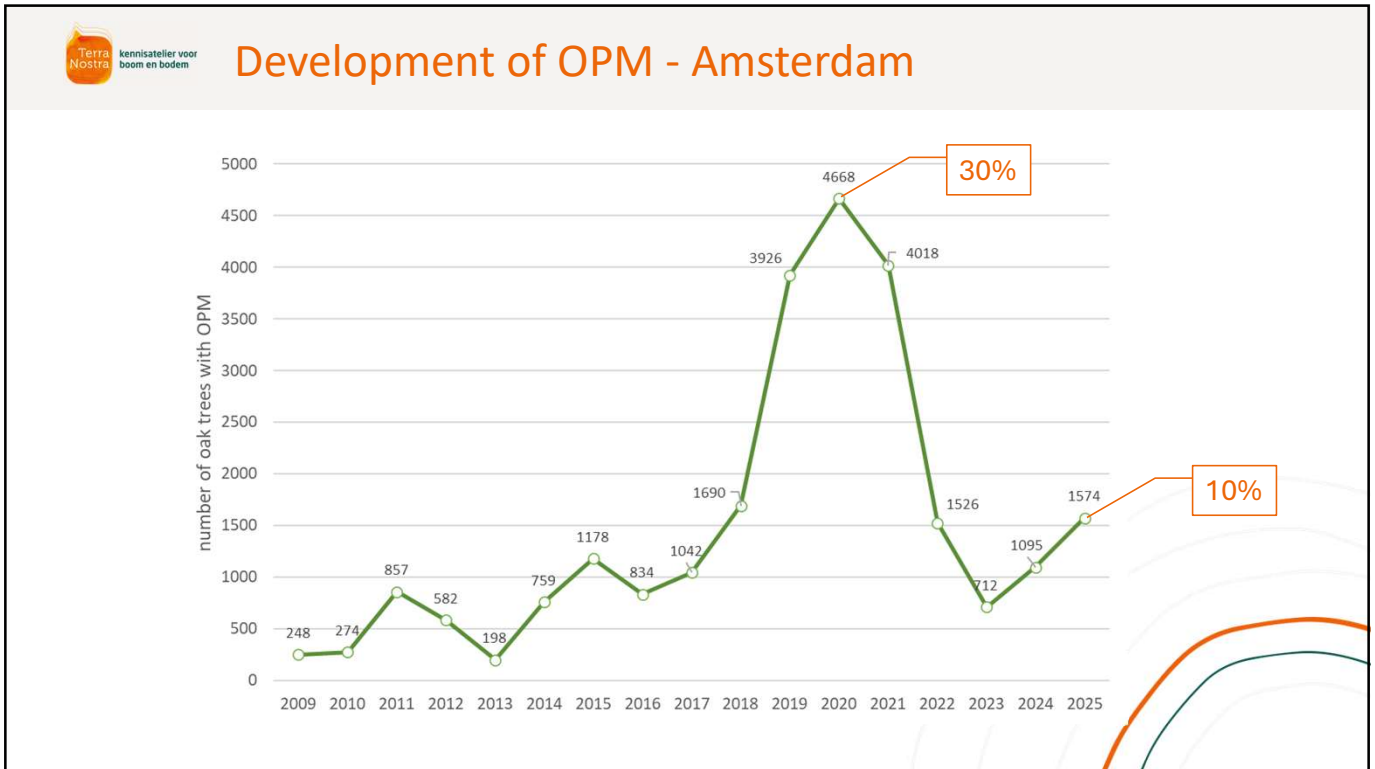
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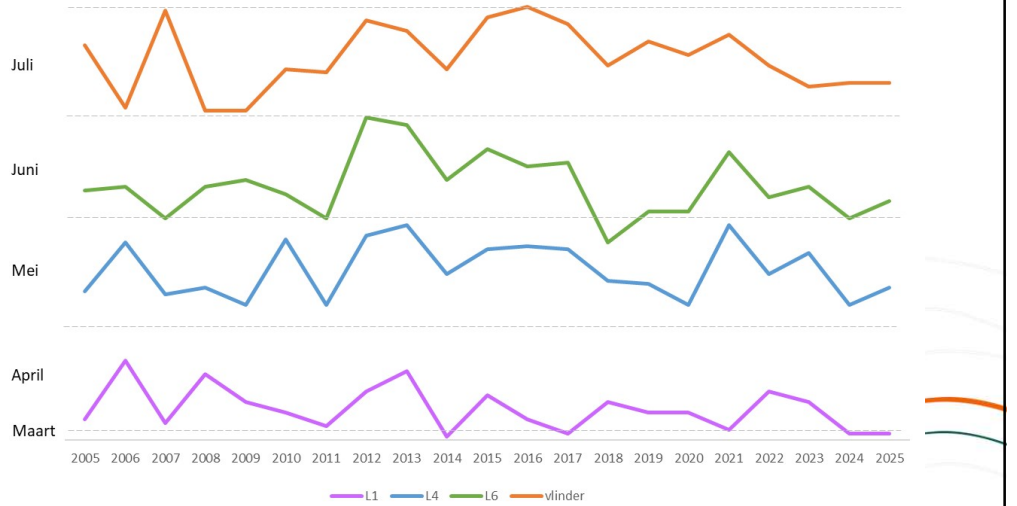
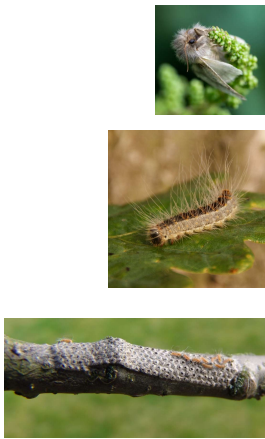
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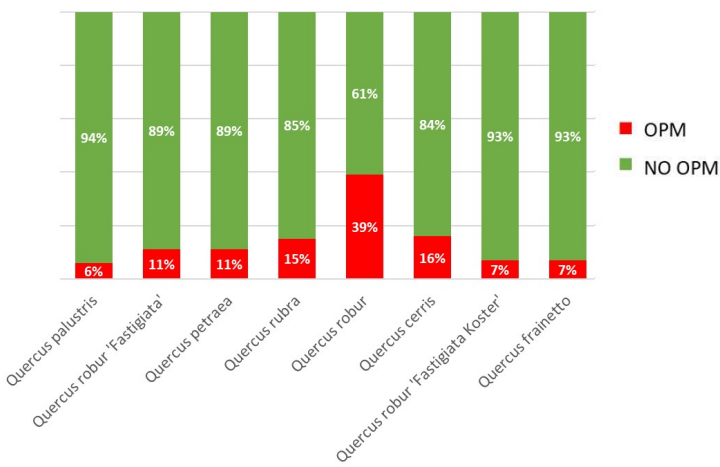
Going through the life stages of OPM

On average 100 days from L1 to moth



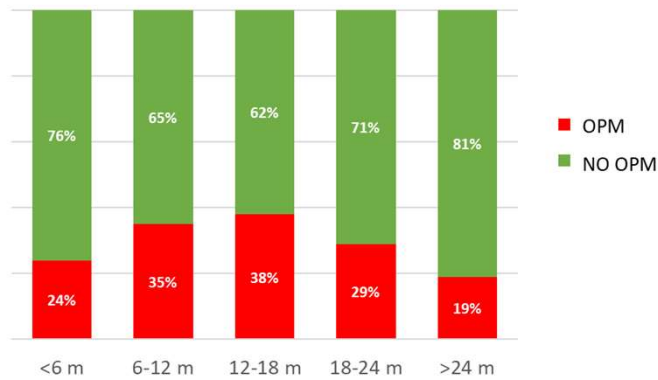
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OPM preferences



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OPM preferences



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OPM management

Short term

- Analysis of the OPM population
- Management plan
- Preventive measures, removal of nests
- Monitoring: nests and by pheromone trapping
- Communication and acceptance

Long term

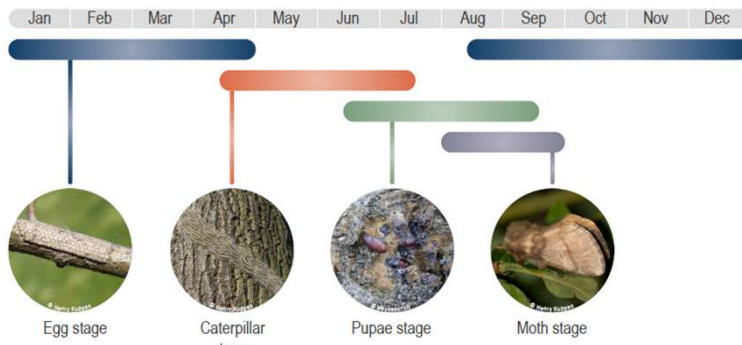
- Create more diversity in tree species
- Trend analysis
- Create habitat and promote the presence of natural predators
- Involve an ecologist

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Management of OPM

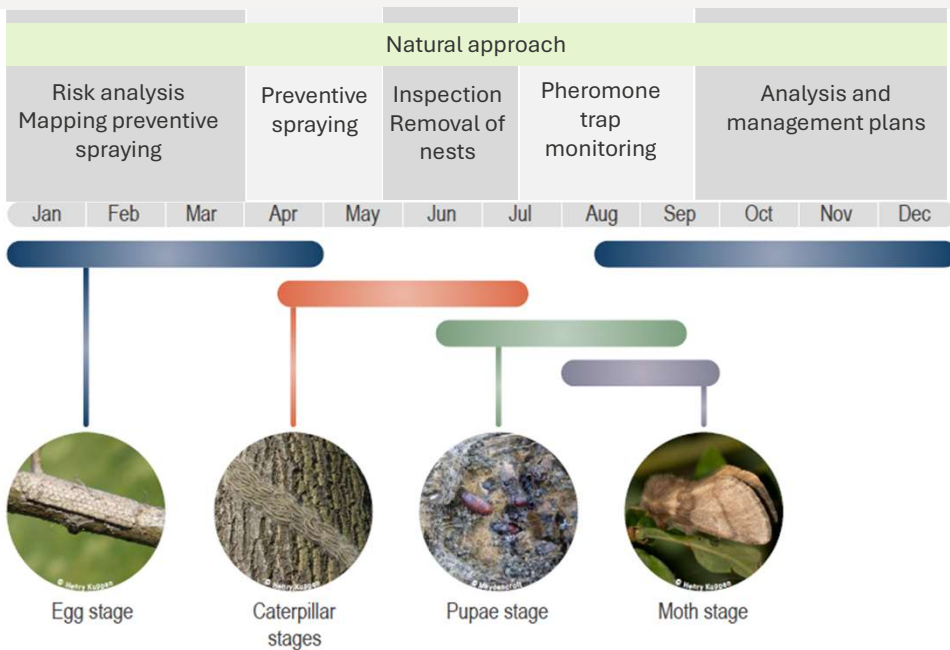
Risk based management

- **Monitoring** - Inspections, pheromone trap network
- **Preventive measures** - spraying
- **Active management** - removing nests
- **Natural approach** - stimulating natural predators




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Management of OPM

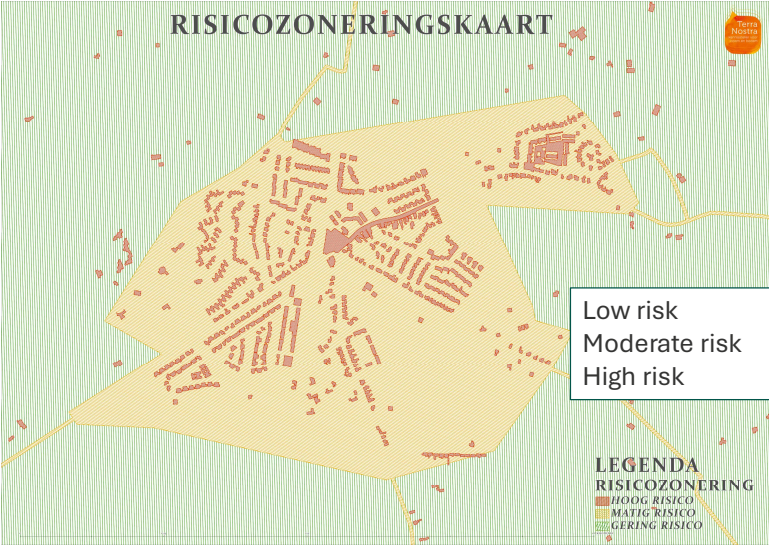


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Risk analysis




RISICOZONERINGSKAART

Low risk
Moderate risk
High risk


**LEGENDA
RISICOZONERING**

- HOOG RISICO
- MATIG RISICO
- GERING RISICO




Low number of passing of people/animals
Shortterm stay of people/animals
Longterm stay

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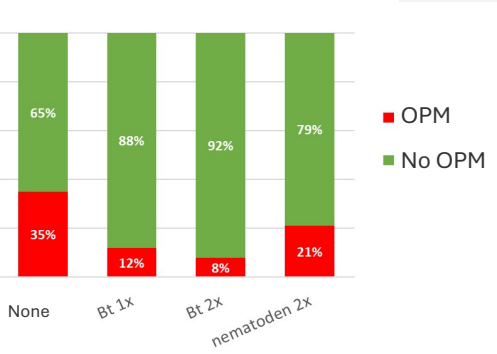
Preventive measures



Nematodes
Steinernema feltiae
<25% trees with OPM



Bacterial preparation
Bacillus thuringiensis (BT)
<15% trees with OPM



Treatment	OPM (%)	No OPM (%)
None	35%	65%
Bt 1x	12%	88%
Bt 2x	8%	92%
nematoden 2x	21%	79%

Based on:

- Risk
- Effect non-target insects
- Infestation threshold

Evaluated every year

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Monitoring – inspections: early detection

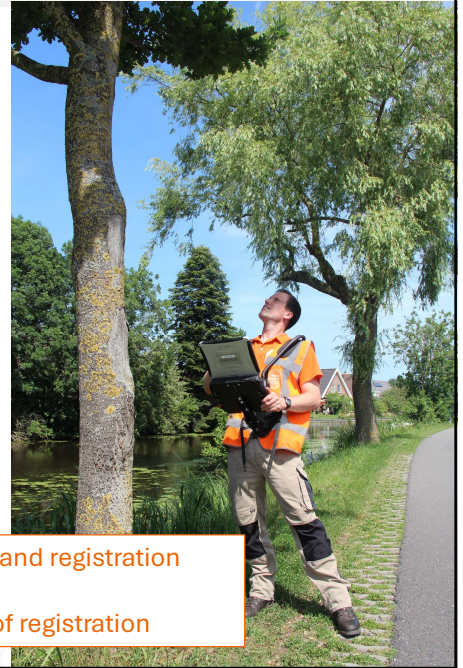
Starts mid may: L4 stage – development irritating hairs and nest formation
Until the end of July– before the moths emerge

Registration of

1. Location of the tree
2. OPM present or not
3. Number of nests
4. Nests size – tennisball, football, blanket
5. Position of the nests (height)
6. Priority of removal

Followed by the removal of the nests

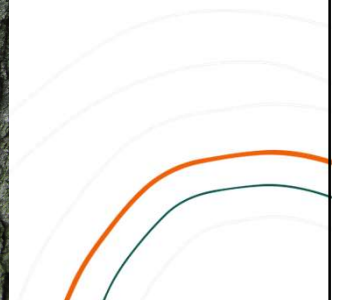
- Digital mapping system and registration
- Repeat every year
- Use the same protocol of registration



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Monitoring – inspections – nest size

Nests size: tennisball



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Monitoring – inspections – nest size

Nestsize : football



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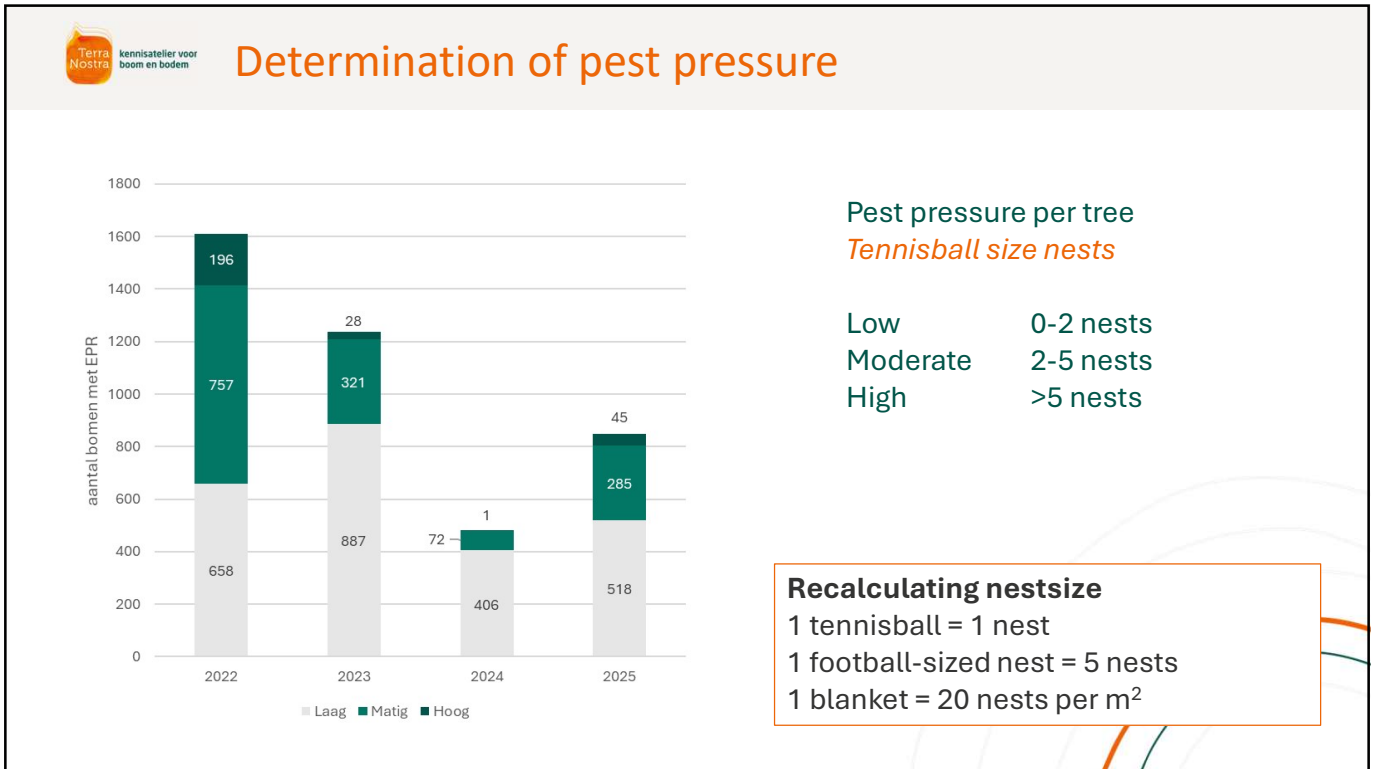
Monitoring – inspections – nest size

Nestsize: blanket

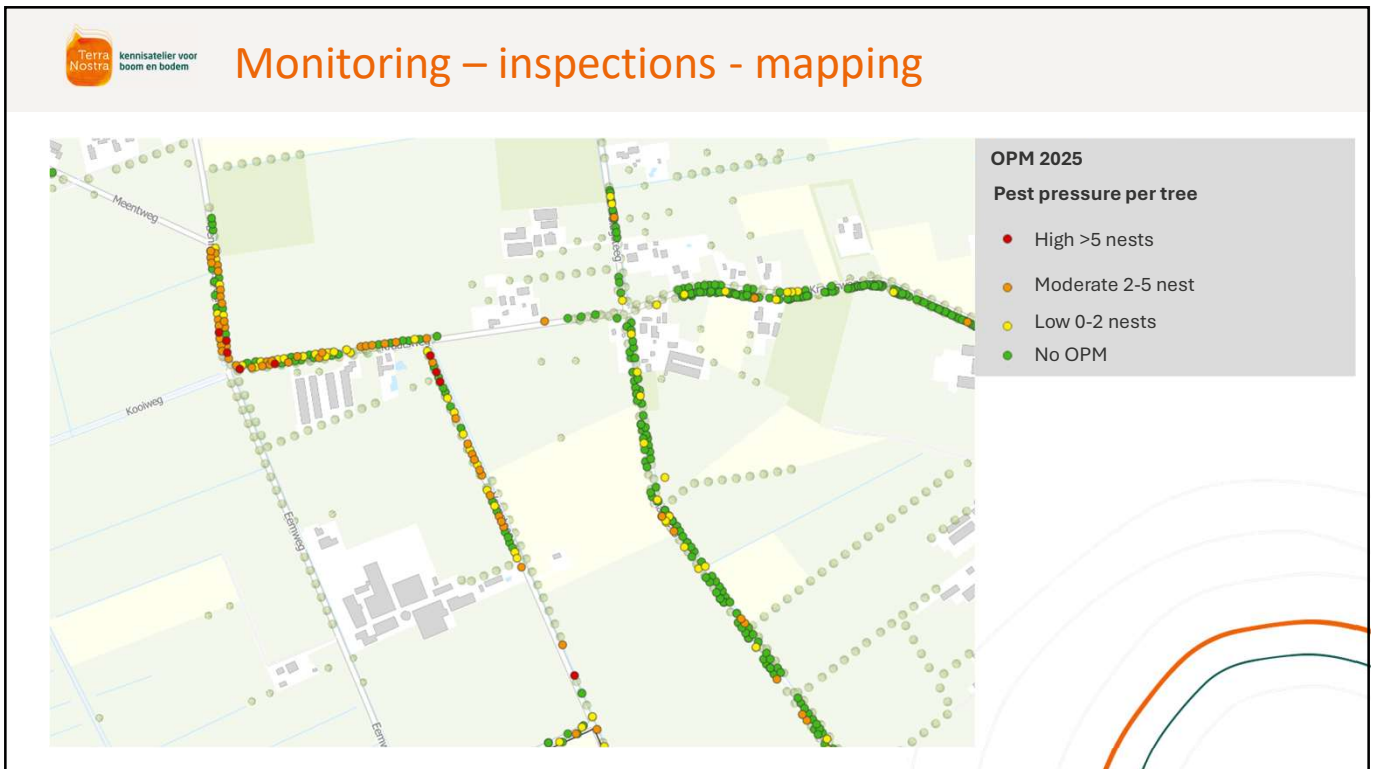
Hot weather promotes:
Development of soil nests
Possible start of diapause



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Removal of nests

- Use personal protection!
- Disposal of waste: waste incinerator
- Waste protocol



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Removal of nests - Suction unit



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Removal of nests



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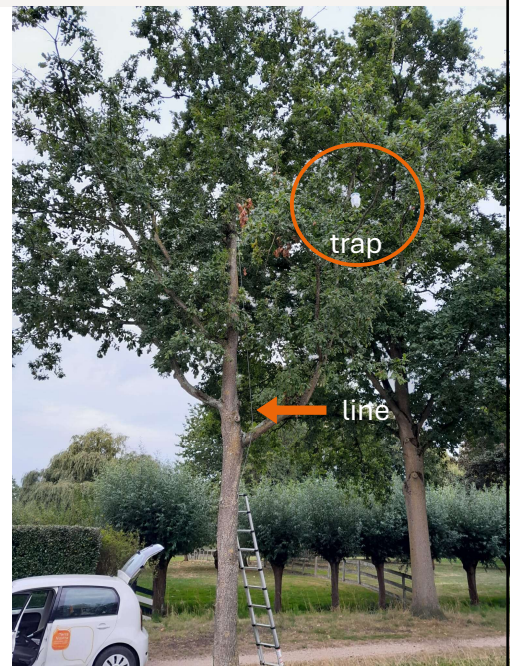
Monitoring - pheromone trapping: early detection



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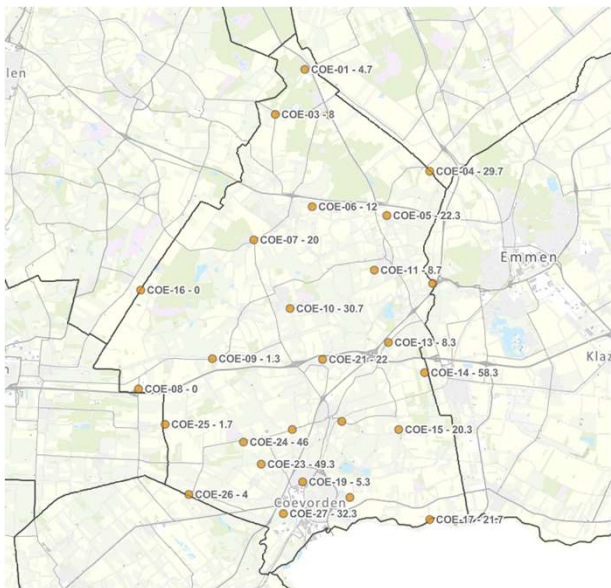
Monitoring - pheromone trapping

- Attracts the male moth
- Mounted in oaks in clusters of 3 (100m inbetween)
- Good distribution over a municipality
- Moths are counted by an entomologist
- Planning depends on development of OPM

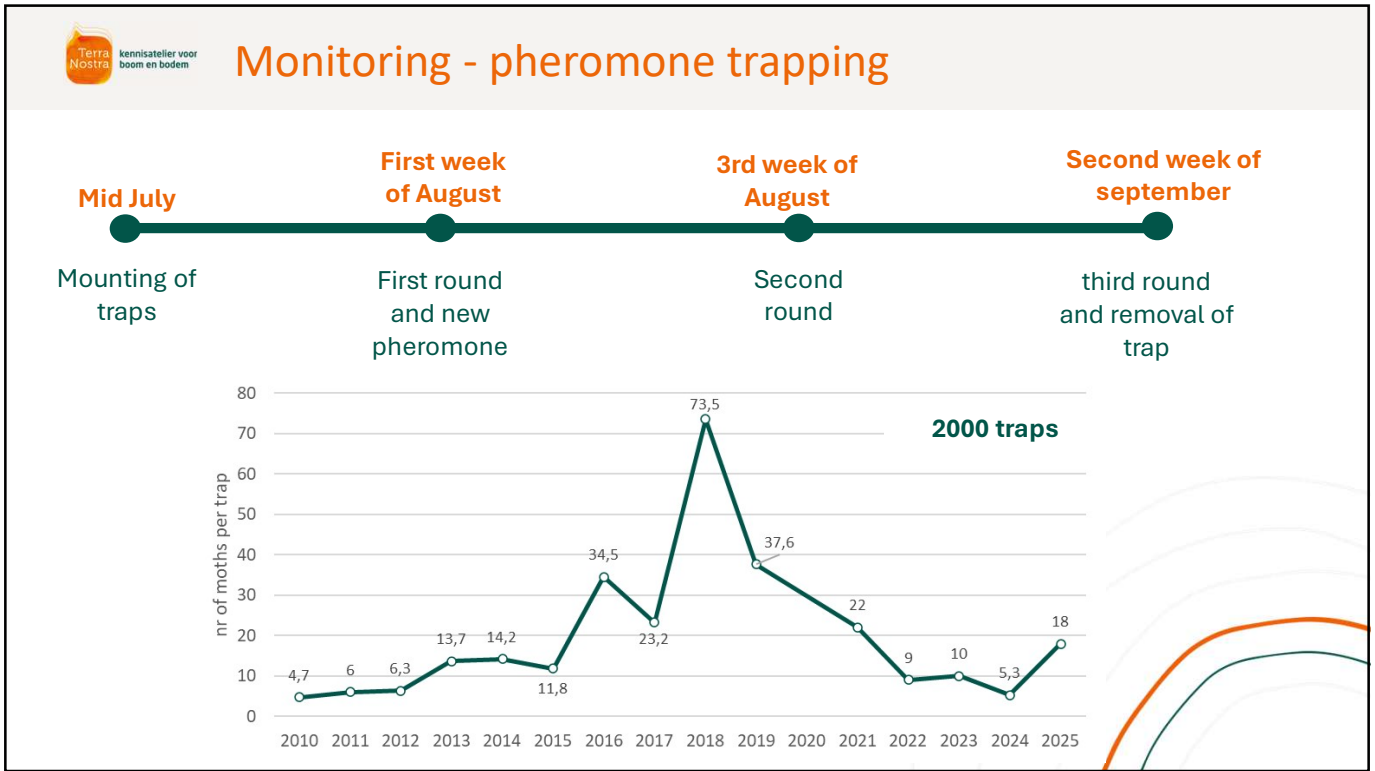


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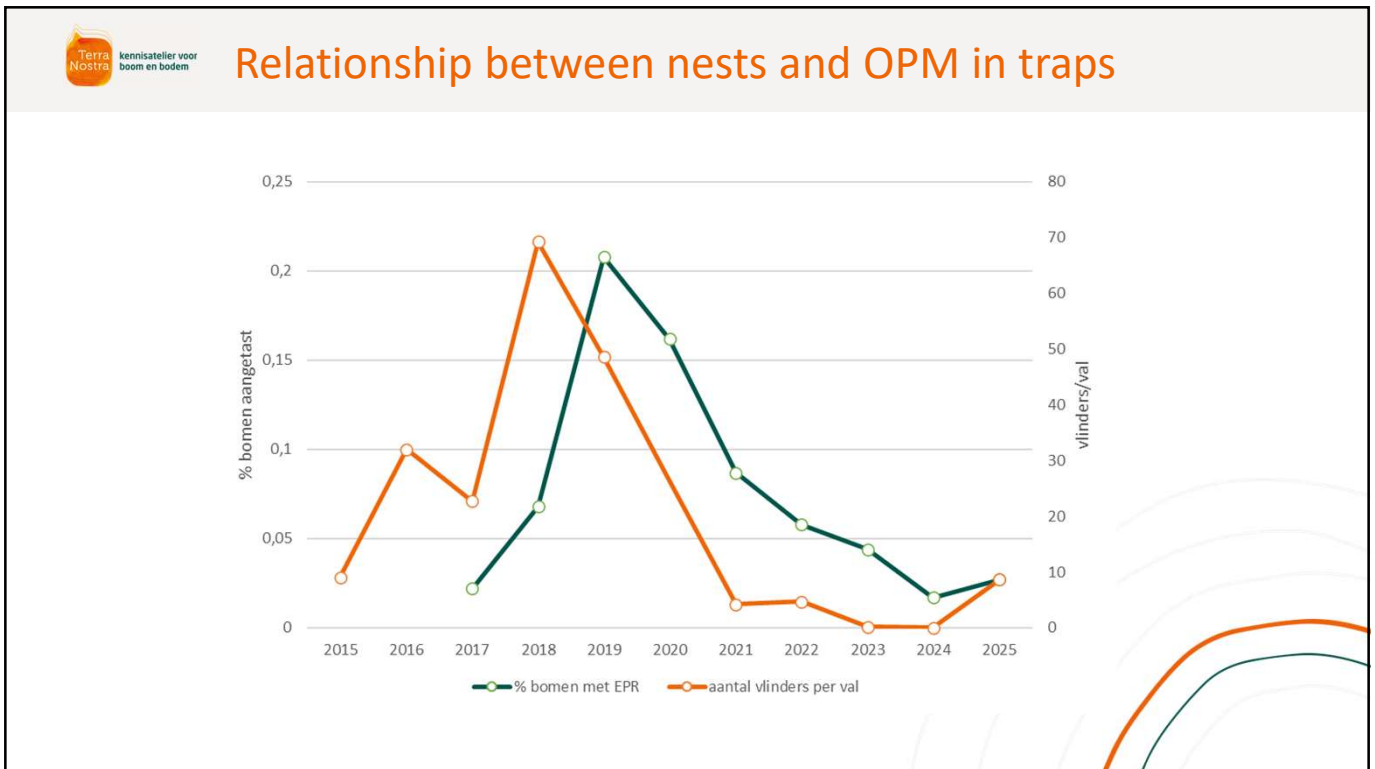
Monitoring - pheromone trapping



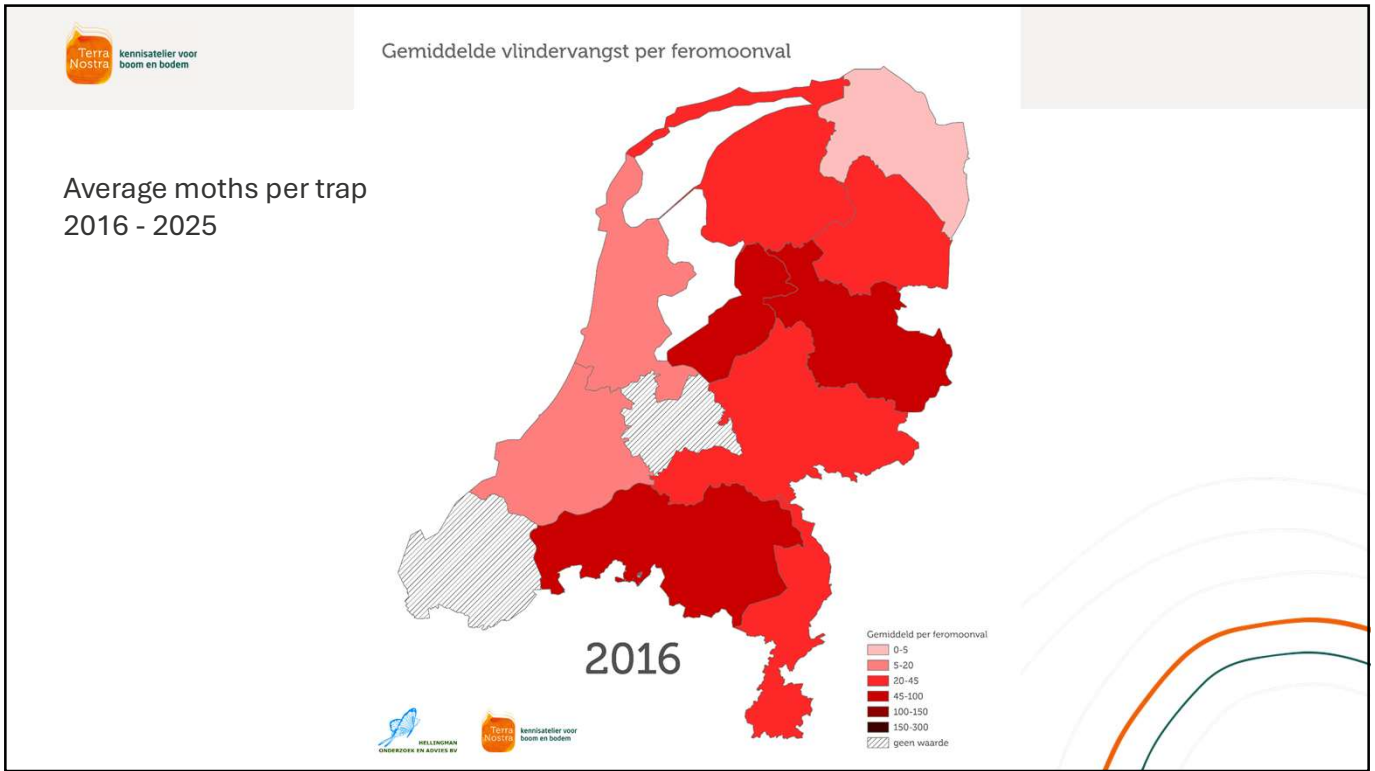
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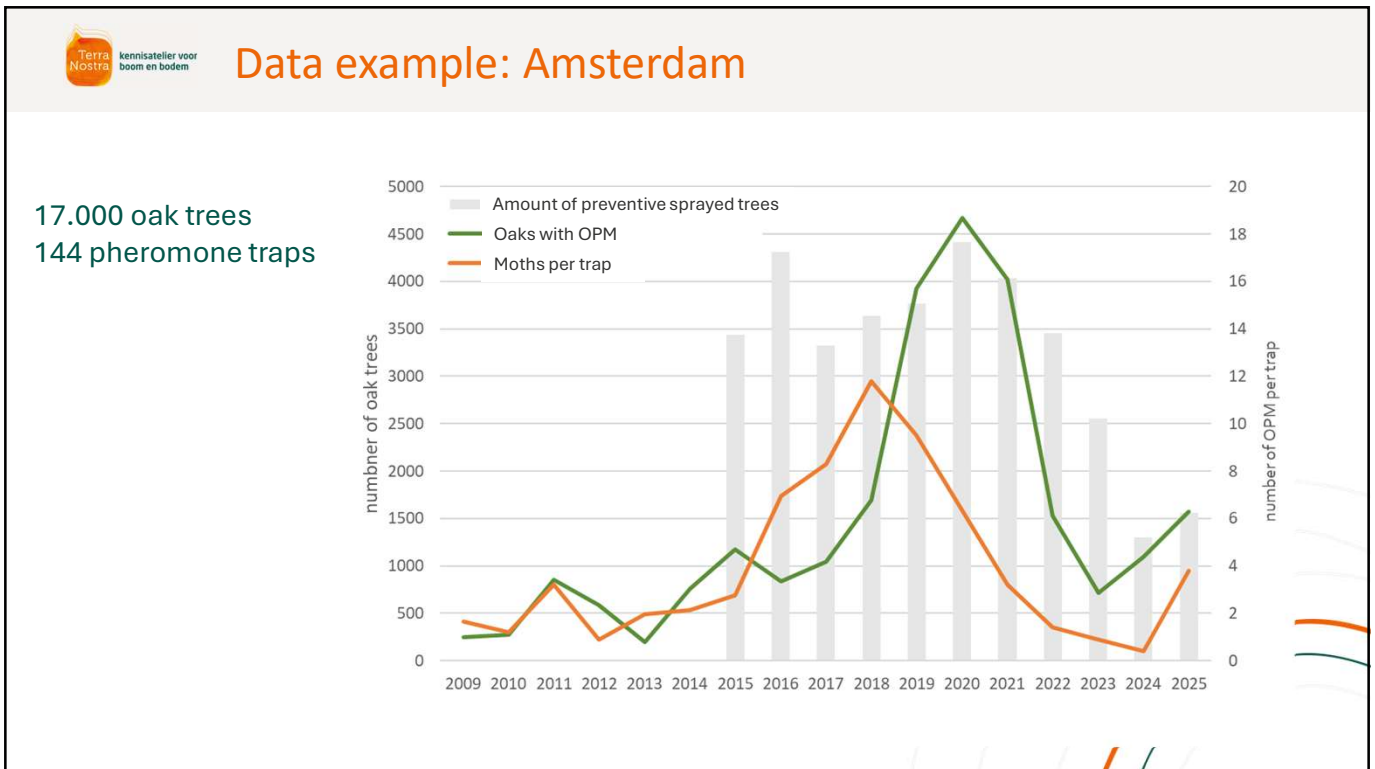
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Long term management of OPM

Prevention of pest pressure

- Create diversity: Active or passive transformation of oak structures
- Analyse foodsource:

Ratio between **species** (f.e. *Quercus robur*), **genus** (*Quercus*) and **family** (*Fagaceae*)

- Diversity rule: **10-20-30**

- Diversity rule new projects: 2-5-10-20

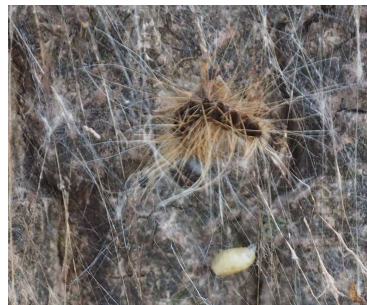


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Long term management of OPM

Introduce and stimulate natural predators

Depending on life stage OPM






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Long term management of OPM

Stimulate natural predators and limit access

- Habitat
- Risk based
- Combine measures
- Be realistic, longterm goals

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Summary

Risk

Level of infestation

OPM management

DATA

Experts

National level

Monitoring

Preventive spraying

Removal of nests

Natural predators

Management plan (each year)

OPM management guidelines

www.processierups.nu

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Most important:

- Early detection
- Prevention of spreading

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