

**Notes from the  
Thousand Cankers of Black Walnut National Conference  
November 3-4, 2009 - St. Louis, Missouri  
Doubletree Hotel—St. Louis at Westport**

*This is based on notes taken by Julia Thompson and David Johnson (both of the Missouri Department of Agriculture) and typed by J. Thompson (CAUTION: This is not a transcript, but notes. Remarks are often paraphrased and may have been accidentally omitted or misunderstood by the note-takers. It has not been compared with the event recording to check for accuracy.)*

**Tuesday, November 3, 2009**

Key to some abbreviations used:

WTB = walnut twig beetle = *Pityophthorus juglandis*

TCD = thousand cankers disease

Gm = *Geosmithia 'morbida'* ('*morbida*' is proposed species name of this newly discovered species)

BW = black walnut = *Juglans nigra*

**Kathleen Alexander (City of Boulder, CO) – The City of Boulder Story: Thousand Cankers Disease Management from a Municipal Perspective.**

- Has a staff of 3
- Annual tree health survey (originally for resurgence of Dutch elm disease but there are other problems: *Ips* in spruce, Mountain pine beetle)
- BW declining in 2002 drought
- 2003 and 2004 moisture normal but walnuts still declining
  - Large trees—Rapid decline
    - ◆ Flagging—leaves often brown and cling to tree
    - ◆ Top of tree downward
    - ◆ Crown thin
    - ◆ Little or no sprouting, if sprouting occurs it doesn't last long—roots depleted
  - On small trees—leaf out in spring and collapse 2-3 weeks later
- “Tree protection ordinance” in Boulder enacted for Dutch elm disease management was broad enough to allow BW condemnation
  - Used standard of ½ crown affected
  - 2007 took down 250 trees
  - Compliance with proper wood disposal was poor, many people offered to remove dying walnuts if they could have the wood
- Whitney's “good news” on length of infestation is bad news for community enforcement as trees are infested long before symptoms show.
- Find out—Do you have ordinances?
- Create a license for tree removers
- Have a criminal penalty for non-compliance
- TCD website probably helped most to advance ID with people in the west
- Action plan:

- Monitor—must survey with bucket truck, etc to see—not wait until you see symptoms, must random sample to see if in area unless we can get good trapping system
  - Management
  - Inventory
  - Budget impacts
  - Staffing impacts
  - Volunteers
  - Tree replacement programs
- Has decided to let trees stand when dead better than cutting them and shipping out