



Getting what you need from the



The Web site offers a one-stop source for mountain pine beetle information.

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Are you looking for a one-stop source of information on the mountain pine beetle (MPB)? If so, then look no further than the Mountain Pine Beetle Information Network (<http://www.forrex.org/mpb>). The network provides direct access to a searchable bibliographic warehouse of published literature on MPB, a searchable MPB-events catalogue, the Natural Resources Information Network (NRIN) product databases, as well as a link to the McGregor Model Forest Association's Bark Beetle Links Web site.

The MPB bibliographic warehouse currently contains over 1,200 literature citations. The citations include all of the pertinent reference information, keywords, and an abstract (if available) or a description of the article. This is a "living" project; we will continue to add new references, and locate and add abstract information to existing records over time. In cases where the publication is available on-line, the Web address (URL) is included. The site also provides links to documents containing search and result-interpretation tips (<http://www.nrnr.org/InterpretingTheResults.html>) to assist users.

The MPB events catalogue contains information on planned MPB-related events (workshops, conferences, meetings, etc.) and is continually being updated. Contributions to this database are invited

and can be made by contacting **Al Wiensczyk** (alan.wiensczyk@forrex.org or 250-614-4354).

Users of the network can also search more than 25 other information catalogues contributed by a variety of organizations and housed in NRIN. These catalogues contain metadata records of research projects, unpublished project reports (interim and final), and published papers.

The McGregor Model Forest Association's Bark Beetle Links Web site (<http://www.barkbeetlelinks.ca>) is an information hub providing users with links to the home pages of organizations involved in MPB issues, information, or research. The Web site divides the links into five main categories: Major sites, Research sites, Resource sites, Articles and Media, and Associated sites. Major sites includes links to the Natural Resources Canada Mountain Pine Beetle Initiative site, the Province of British Columbia MPB site, as well as several others. The Research sites section links to a searchable database of MPB-related recent research projects. Examples of links listed under the Resource sites include the Entomology Society of British Columbia, the Colorado State University MPB site, and the Bugwood.org site. The Articles and Media section contains a link to a CBC interview with Dr. Staffan Lindgren from the University of Northern British Columbia as well as links to a variety of articles on MPB. The Associated sites section contains, as examples, links to the Cariboo-Chilcotin and the Omineca Beetle Action Coalitions, the Forest Engineering Research Institute of Canada (FERIC), as well as companies who produce products using the stained, beetle-killed wood.

Tips on how to search the bibliographic warehouse and events catalogue

The default search setting or Quick search will conduct a simple search of both the MPB bibliographic warehouse and the MPB events catalogue, simultaneously. The simple search looks for and presents records containing at least one of the words in the search field (using an "or" search mechanism). For example, if you type in mountain pine beetle the search engine will look for records that contain the words mountain or pine or beetle. This type of search usually results in a lot of hits and is useful if the user is interested in a broad scope assessment of what information is available. The use of double quotes around a group of words ("mountain pine beetle") will search for those words as a phrase,



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although Boolean search words such as “and” will be ignored. For example, a search for “MPB biodiversity and wildlife” using the double quotes will actually search for MPB biodiversity wildlife.

Bibliographic Warehouse


A more useful approach for looking for specific publication information is to use the advanced search options, which are accessed by selecting the radio button located to the left of the database name. For the bibliographic warehouse, several advanced search options will then appear; the most useful of these are Limit Search, Without the Words, Date, and Occurrence.

- Limit Search will allow users to select one of three options:
 - with all the words,
 - with the exact phrase, and
 - with any of the words.
- Selection of “with the exact phrase” is particularly useful when searching for a specific title or using the topic keyword phrases. Boolean search words such as “and” are not ignored and are included when using this feature. To ease the searching process, topic keyword phrases have been assigned to each reference in the database and broadly classify the reference according to its subject area. For example, the MPB Biology topic keyword phrase includes the following subject areas: flight and dispersal characteristics and mechanisms, pheromones (attractants and anti-aggregants), host resistance (e.g., genetics), tree age and size impacts, and interaction between different species of beetles and MPB. For a list of the other topic keyword phrases and the subject areas covered see <http://www.nrin.org/MPBSearchTips.html>
- “Without the words” allows users to further refine their search to not include references with certain words.
- Date allows users to restrict their search to references published during a certain year or range of years. For example, to search for literature published in 1997, you would need to select January 1, 1997 to January 1, 1997. (Note: Using the same year is correct. Because this search system was developed for use with a variety of database types [such as events] the NRIN data entry protocol requires a full date for each record [day, month, and year] even though, in this situation, the day and month

are not relevant. To satisfy this requirement in the bibliographic warehouse, the month and day were arbitrarily set to January 1. For citation purposes, this day and month should be ignored and only the year used).

- Occurrence allows users to limit the fields in which the search engine looks for the search term. The default is anywhere. Other choices include keyword, title, and abstract. The methodology choice does not apply to this database.

Events Catalogue

Selection of the radio button located to the left of the MPB Events catalogue results in the appearance of the advanced search options for this database. Similar to the bibliographic warehouse, useful search options include Limit Search, Without the Words, Date, and Occurrence. The Date search would be for the date of the event; and, in this case, the day and month are relevant. For example, to search for events in the month of February 2007 you would select February 1, 2007 to February 28, 2007. Another useful search field unique to this dataset is the Event Type. The default is, “Any,” with other choices of Conference, Course, Field Visit, Meeting, Seminar/Lecture, or Workshop. 

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Use the radio button to access advanced search features for each database.