



Unlike native snails, EHS are known for “massing” behavior which involves climbing vegetation and/or vertical surfaces to escape high ground temperatures.



Help Stop the spread of the EHS

The Eastern Heath Snail (EHS) is a non-native/invasive terrestrial snail, to Montana, that was first detected in Belt and has spread to other areas in Chouteau, Cascade, and Judith Basin Counties.

The EHS feeds on a variety of plants and detritus. Their presence may negatively impact agricultural crop production and quality. It is a potential vector for plant diseases and internal parasites of livestock and wildlife.

Scan To Learn More

www.CEMIST.org



**To Report Eastern Heath
Snails, Contact your local
MSU Extension Office**

-or-

**Montana Department of
Agriculture
(406) 444-9066**



**Eastern Heath Snail
(*Xerolenta obvia*)**

**This invasive
land snail is
found in
Cascade,
Chouteau,
Fergus and
Judith Basin
Counties**

Recommended Management

- **Site Sanitation:** Remove trash, litter, debris, or other forms of waste that provide snails with daytime hiding places or harborage. Removed materials, if free of snails, should be placed in regular waste bags, sealed, and disposed of in the municipal trash. Materials with snails should not be transported. If snails are present they should be removed and crushed.

- **Artificial Movement Prevention and Inspection:** Thoroughly inspect items that will leave an infested site. Items should not be staged in know infestation areas or where vegetation is present. If snails are observed they should be removed and crushed. Inspect all equipment before it leaves an infested site to prevent artificial movement to new areas.



- **Site Management and Modification:** Maintain vegetation in infested areas to control the natural spread of snails. Mow vegetation to 5 inches or less. Chip trees and brush on site before removing. Modify sites (rake, grade, and/or resurface with gravel) to reduce snails and eggs in shallow soils.



- **Treatment:** To reduce or manage invasive snail populations, apply a molluscicide approved for use in Montana. Use according to the label.



EHS are smaller than a dime (16mm-19mm) and often white with spiral brown bands.

Though the EHS's natural spread is slow, its distribution has expanded due to movement through contaminated equipment and/or materials such as gravel.

