None





OVERALL Middle Patuxent Envirmental Area, 6/24/2015, R. Orr. OVERALL Cypressmede Park, 6/30/2015, B. Ott.

J F M A M J J A S O N D

ID: Infection of soldier beetles.

Habitat: Common soldier beetle (Chauliognathus pennsylvanicus).

Fruiting Body: "I noticed several dead adults of the common soldier beetle (*Chauliognathus pennsylvanicus*) attached by their mandibles to milkweed leaves and hanging with their wings open. These beetles have succumbed to a fungal pathogen (*Entomophthora lampyridarum*). The behavior of the beetle at death is triggered by the pathogen. By attaching to a plant off the ground it allows for a better wind dispersion of the fungal spores. The opening of the wings exposes the fungal conidiophores which have developed on the abdomen. Again the opening of the wings better exposed the spores for wind dissemination" * [Description provided by R. Orr.]

Frequency: Uncommon.

Locations: MPENA, OTHER.

Notes: Mycobank 106120.

Synonymn: Entomophthora lampyridarum

References:

*https://www.flickr.com/photos/dragonflyhunter/18935641729/in/dateposted/