Pest Profile



Photo credit: <u>Steven Katovich</u>, USDA Forest Service, Bugwood.org; <u>Whitney Cranshaw</u>, Colorado State University, Bugwood.org

Common Name: Oak rough bulletgall wasp

Scientific Name: Disholcaspis quercusmamma

Order and Family: Hemiptera: Cynipidae

Size and Appearance:

	Length (mm)	Appearance
Egg		Deposited inside twig.
Larva/Nymph		Pale colored, legless grubs, develop inside the gall.
Adult	2-3mm	Dark brown wasps with rounded abdomen and narrow waists, straight antennae, and ovipositor visible.
Pupa (if applicable)		Develops inside gall.

Type of feeder (Chewing, sucking, etc.): Adults do not feed. Larvae: Chewing, consume the inside of the gall as they develop

Host plant/s: Bur oak, swamp white oak

Description of Damage (larvae and adults): After emergence in the spring, female wasps insert eggs into the green stems of the current season twigs. A tiny, green gall is formed by each developing wasp. Galls later turn bright red, then light brown. They later harden and turn a dark brown. Heavy infestations rarely kill trees but can cause girdling and twig drop, as well as stunted growth of the tree.

Galls can also be unpleasant aesthetically, and tend to secrete a honeydew-like material that may attract other nuisance insects.

References:

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