

Discovery of the Beech Scale, *Cryptococcus fagi* (Baer.), in Quebec.—In June 1965, beech trees with the white wool and nymphs of the beech scale were observed at Les Etroits, Temiscouata County, Quebec. Officers of the Entomology Research Institute, Ottawa, confirmed the identification and this collection represents the first record of the scale in Quebec. The nearest known infestation was recorded at Clair, N.B. in 1961 (Forbes *et al.*, Can. Dept. For. Ann. Rept. For. Ins. and Dis. Surv. 1961). The American beech is an important component of the hardwood forest of the area, most commonly growing in association with sugar maple and white birch. At Les Etroits beech has practically reached its northern limit of distribution.

Later in June, the insect was found at two other places covering a total area of 15 square miles. The volume of the stands was estimated to be from 15 to 25 cords to the acre, the proportion of beech varying from 50 to 75% and its diameter from 3 to 20 inches. In the three locations, the proportion of infested trees was less than 1% and the degree of infestation was estimated as light. In each case, the infested trees occurred in small patches and the scale was found on trees of different sizes, mostly on the lower 6 feet of the trunks. On one 9-inch tree, the insect was found from ground level to the base of the crown.

Although *Nectria coccinea* var. *faginata* Lohm., Wats. and Ayers, associated with the beech scale as the cause of the beech bark disease in the Maritime Provinces, was not found on the insect-infested trees, *Nectria galligena* Bres. (as verified by R. H. Arnold, Plant Research Institute, Ottawa) was present on all the infested trees examined. The fungus had just penetrated the bark of one tree but definite cankers were apparent on others. One tree had died recently.—R. Martineau, C. Monnier, and G. B. Ouellette.