

BRITISH COLUMBIA

A Larch Bud Moth, *Zeiraphera* sp., Outbreak on Western Larch in Interior British Columbia in 1965.—First recorded infestations of western larch, *Larix occidentalis* Nutt., in British Columbia by a bud moth, *Zeiraphera* sp., occurred in Nelson Forest District in 1965. Approximately 177,000 acres of larch stands were affected in the District. The largest single infestation, covering approximately 40,000 acres, occurred in the Summit Creek drainage near Creston. Areas of defoliation in the three Insect and Disease Survey Divisions of the Nelson Forest District were: West Nelson, 155,000; Central Nelson, 15,000; and East Nelson, 7,000. Light infestations were also observed on Aberdeen Mountain and near Nicklen Lake in the Kamloops Forest District.

Damage to larch foliage was first noted on June 23 in the Summit Creek Valley near Creston. The insects formed tubes by tying the needle bundles, and fed on the terminal two thirds of the inner surface of the needles within these tubes. When the tubes broke, the portions of the needles which had been partially eaten became exposed, giving infested stands a characteristic yellowish-brown appearance similar to damage caused by *Hypodermella laricis* Tub., a needle cast disease. Later in the season after the dead portions of the needles had dropped, the infestation was discernible only by the thinning of foliage.

Outbreaks occurred in stands with at least a 20% larch content and in many cases infestations overlapped those of the larch sawfly, *Pristiphora erichsonii* Htg. Elevations of infested stands ranged from 4,000 ft to the upper limit of western larch. Damage was found on all age classes of the host from saplings to overmature trees, but no extensive areas of defoliation were observed in reproduction.

Feeding apparently was completed by July 12 near Slokan Lake at an elevation of 4,000 ft. No living larvae were present; only a few dead larvae were seen in several needle bundles. On July 22 three pupae were removed from the duff beneath infested trees and reared at the Vernon Laboratory. On July 28 one crippled adult, which was tentatively identified as *Zeiraphera* sp., emerged. Myriads of adults were observed in flight at an elevation of 4,300 ft near Nelson on July 29; the majority of the moths collected were males. Moths were noted in flight near Slokan Lake as late as September 8.

An egg survey in the fall revealed very few 1965 eggs but egg shells from previous years were common. Eggs, deposited singly as a rule, were found under flat lichens on the stem and branches and under bark scales.

No conclusions could be reached on the reason for the sudden outbreak in 1965 or the status of egg populations for possible predictions of defoliation in 1966.—N. G. Geistlinger and D. A. Ross.

Correction: Vol. 21, No. 5, p. 2, col. 2, line 9, of item on *Waitea circinta*. This line should read: "more, some of the uniform or cylindrical basidia being up to"

Correction: Vol. 21, No. 6, p. 3, col. 1, line 20, delete 80 ppm and insert 150 ppm.

Correction: Vol. 21, No. 6, p. 3, col. 1, line 17, delete "this fungus" and insert "three species of this genus".

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