

PEST REPORT

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1 August 1975

PINE NEEDLE SHEATHMINER IN PRINCE GEORGE DISTRICT

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The pine needle sheathminer, *Zelleria haimbachi*, has defoliated and caused some dieback in two stands of lodgepole pine in Prince George Forest District. One stand is on the west side of Williston Lake near Blackwater Creek, the other is 11 miles north of Endako.

About 500 to 600 acres of the 12-year-old stand near Williston Lake were heavily defoliated in 1974 and 1975. The 1974 defoliation apparently resulted in severe damage or death of 40% of the terminal shoots, however laterals have generally replaced the dead terminals. Additional deformity may follow the 1975 defoliation.

Defoliation north of Endako was evident on 200 to 300 acres with about 50% of the new foliage affected. Apparently defoliation was of little significance in 1974.

The sheathminer is currently in the pupal stage so no further defoliation will occur in 1975.