

Status of Insects in the Parry Sound  
District

Barnes, C.A.

Information Report                      O-X-13  
(Forest Research Laboratory, Ontario Region)

1965

## FOREWORD

J. E. MacDonald

Outbreaks of the forest tent caterpillar have highlighted reports dealing with forest insect surveys for the past several years. In 1965, the outbreak in Western Ontario reached its peak and poplar stands within an area of about 34,000 square miles were severely defoliated. Egg surveys in the fall revealed that a marked decline in infestation intensity will occur in Sioux Lookout and Kenora districts but high larval populations will persist in Fort Frances and Port Arthur districts in 1966. Trends in infestation intensities will vary from area to area in eastern Ontario, with the most noteworthy increase in the extent of infestations occurring in the Lake Nipissing outbreak.

The development of new infestations of Bruce spanworm and the European pine sawfly were of particular interest in 1965. Infestations of the former occurred in Sault Ste. Marie, Sudbury and Pembroke districts. Severe defoliation of hardwoods that resulted in relatively large areas represented first records of extensive infestations in Ontario. A major extension in the known distribution of the European pine sawfly was recorded when the insect was found in two Scots pine plantations on Manitoulin Island. This extension places the insect much closer to major stands of jack pine in northern Ontario.

For the third consecutive year low temperatures in the spring caused considerable mortality of the current year's shoots of balsam fir and white spruce at many locations in Ontario. Continued cold weather throughout the summer delayed the development of many insects and in some instances larvae failed to reach maturity before freezing temperatures occurred in the fall.

Tree disease surveys continued to reveal serious losses of white elm resulting from Dutch elm disease in southern Ontario. In northern Ontario two centers of infection occurred on Manitoulin Island and infected elm were found at one location near Spanish on the North Shore of Lake Huron. Intensive surveys to determine the distribution and incidence of this disease will be continued in 1966.

During the early years of the Survey in Ontario Field Technicians were largely concerned with determining the distribution and abundance of forest insects and appraising losses in forest stands. As a consequence the detection aspect of survey work was of a high order. Later, added responsibility for disease surveys and the development of more elaborate sampling procedures, reduced the time available for purely detection work. To compensate for this, greater emphasis has been placed on systematic aerial reconnaissance throughout the vast forested areas of central and northern Ontario.

The Survey welcomed the addition of a Forest Research Technician to its staff in 1965. This appointment now provides one field representative for each district in the Southeastern Region where formerly three men were responsible for survey work in four districts.

In the reports that follow, insects and tree diseases that are of interest in adjoining districts are dealt with on a regional basis. Others are dealt with in detail on a district basis.



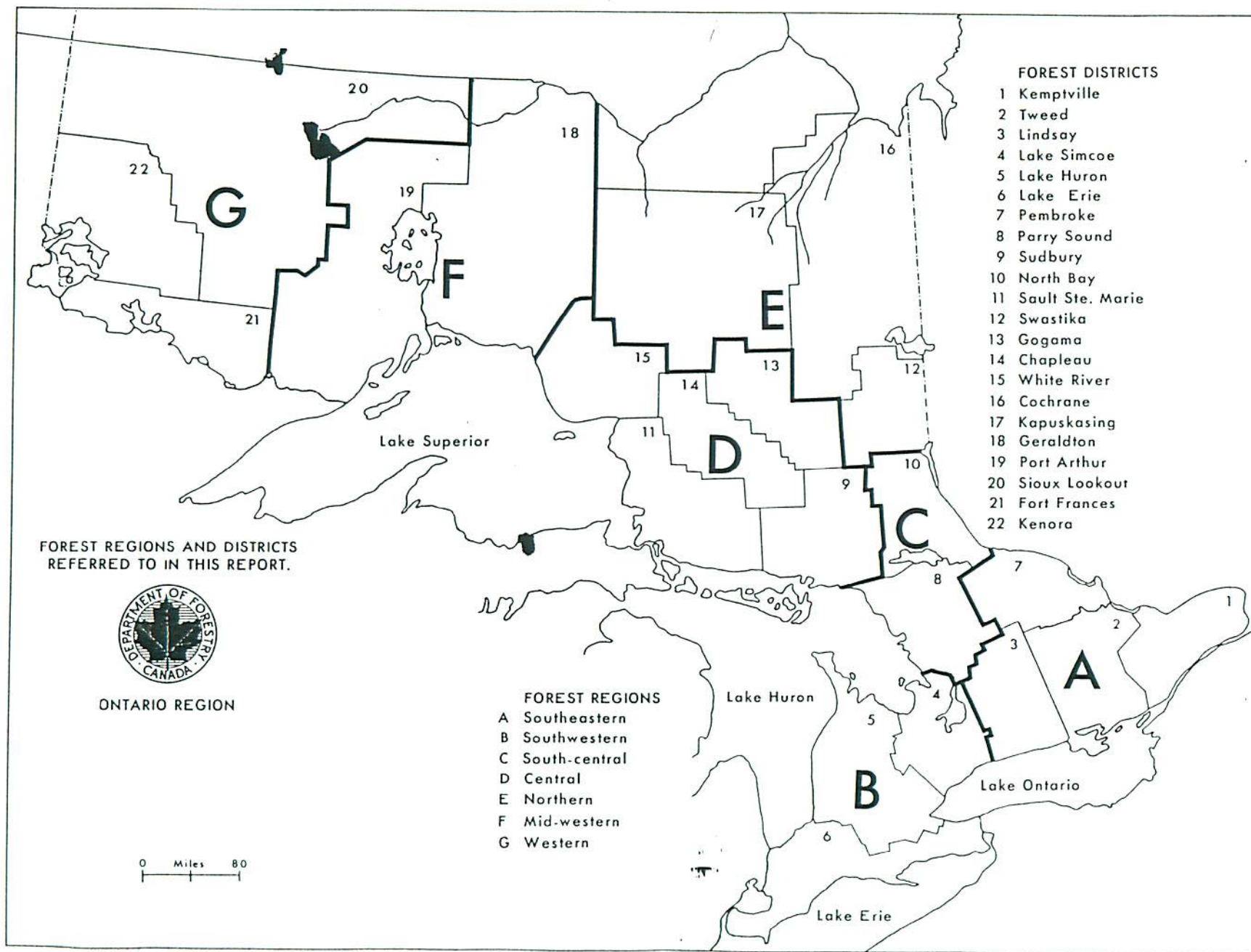


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STATUS OF INSECTS IN THE PARRY SOUND DISTRICT

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C. A. Barnes





## STATUS OF INSECTS

Larch Casebearer, Coleophora laricella Hbn.

A decline in population levels of this insect occurred in all but one sample point in 1965 (Table 4). At one point in Ridout Township, an average of 14.8 larvae per 18-inch branch tip was recorded, the highest count since 1961. Approximately 20 per cent defoliation occurred at this location.

In the past three years heavy parasitism by the introduced parasite Agathis pumila (Ratz.), and light parasitism by Chrysocharis (Epilampsis) laricinella (Ratz.) has been recorded in mass collections of overwintering larvae from two locations in the district. In 1965 mass collections of pupae were submitted to determine if Chrysocharis (Epilampsis) laricinella (Ratz.), was more active during this stage of development than in the larval stage. However, only small numbers of both parasites were recovered.

TABLE 4

Summary of Larval Counts of the Larch Casebearer  
in the Parry Sound District, 1963-1965

Location (township)	Tree species	Av. no. of larvae per 18-inch branch tip		
		1963	1964	1965
Ridout	eL	2.2	6.7	14.8
Wallbridge	tL	0.3	1.2	0.5
Chapman	tL	1.8	0.4	1.0
Perry	tL	1.0	0.4	0.2
McLean	tL	1.3	0.6	0.2
Gurd	tL	0.5	0.3	0.3
Chisholm	tL	1.3	1.5	0.8
Stephenson	tL	1.4	0.7	0.6

European Spruce Sawfly, Diprion hercyniae (Htg.)

Increases in population levels occurred at all but one sample point in 1965. The highest number was recorded at a sample point in Joly Township, where 87 larvae were recovered from 15 tray samples (Table 5).



TABLE 5

Summary of European Spruce Sawfly Larval Counts Taken on White  
Spruce Trees in the Parry Sound District 1961-1965

Location (township)	Total no. of larvae per 15-tray sample				
	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Ryerson	9	12	11	24	43
Chapman	13	6	2	6	24
Gurd	19	25	6	11	51
McMurrich	7	15	8	5	19
Monteith	8	21	18	26	37
Perry	26	69	5	17	40
Croft	5	13	9	14	4
Joly	35	10	7	38	87
Machar	14	10	0	6	11
McLean	13	14	8	10	13

White Pine Shoot Borer, *Eucosma gloriola* Heinr.

For the second consecutive year population levels of this insect declined substantially at all sample points in the district (Table 6). The maximum number of infested trees was eight per cent.

TABLE 6

Summary of Shoot Damage Caused by the White Pine Shoot Borer  
in the Parry Sound District, 1963-1965

Note: One hundred trees were examined at each location.

Location (township)	Host species	Av. height of trees in feet in 1965	Per cent of trees infested			Per cent of trees with leaders infested in 1965
			1963	1964	1965	
McLean	rP	9	23	9	2	0
McLean	jP	17	7	5	0	0
Stisted	rP	18	6	6	3	0
McAulay	rP	15	16	11	0	0
McAulay	jP	21	11	6	0	0
McMurrich	rP	9	24	15	0	0
McMurrich	jP	20	5	3	0	0
Armour	scP	13	21	15	8	2

Jack-pine Needle Miner, Exoteleia pinifoliella (Chamb.)

Medium infestations of this insect were observed in clumps of jack pine near Parry Sound in McDougall Township, Bear Lake in Monteith Township, and Huntsville in Brunel Township. Approximately 25 per cent of the needles on past year's shoots were infested at each location. Light infestations were common in Boulter, Harrison, and Burpee townships.

Eastern Tent Caterpillar, Malacosoma americanum F.

Light infestations of this insect that occurred along Highway 69 from Parry Sound to the French River for the past six years increased to heavy intensity in 1965. At one location in Harrison Township, counts of initial tents along a measured mile of roadside were the highest recorded in the district for a number of years (Table 7). Population levels declined slightly in the southern part of the district.

TABLE 7

Summary of Eastern Tent Caterpillar Colony Counts  
in the Parry Sound District 1960-1965

Location (township)	Sampling area	No. of primary tents					
		1960	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Franklin	square chain plot	7	13	18	11	8	3
Stephenson	" " "	3	17	11	14	11	0
McAulay	" " "	36	47	32	23	3	7
Chisholm	" " "	0	1	3	3	1	2
Boulter	" " "	0	2	0	3	2	3
McLean	mile of roadside	79	91	63	42	28	31
Brunel	" " "	28	31	18	14	7	2
Stephenson	" " "	21	22	27	21	14	2
Wood	" " "	31	53	62	40	29	27
McDougall	" " "	18	44	51	31	17	14
MacKenzie	" " "	16	29	24	11	8	6
Harrison	" " "	-	-	-	-	-	181

Forest Tent Caterpillar, Malacosoma disstria Hbn.

Population levels of this insect increased in the district in 1965 compared with 1964. Heavy infestations occurred in the Muskoka Lakes area, where sugar maple, red oak, white elm, and trembling aspen were severely defoliated. In the northern part of the district a band of heavy infestation extended from the Dokis Indian Reserve along the French River eastward to North Himsforth Township. The total area of infestation in the district was approximately 970 square miles (see map).

Mass collections of cocoons were made to determine the percentage of parasitism, predation, disease, and moth emergence (Table 8).



TABLE 8

Summary of Dissections of Forest Tent Caterpillar Cocoons  
in the Parry Sound District, 1964-1965

Location (township)	Per cent with emergence		Per cent parasitized		Per cent dead of other causes	
	1964	1965	1964	1965	1964	1965
Nipissing	-	16	-	84	-	0
Medora	38	34	39	63	23	3
Wood	36	10	41	90	23	0
Muskoka	-	27	-	73	-	0
Humphry	-	30	-	70	-	0

On the basis of egg band counts an increase in population levels of the insect is expected in the northern part of the district in 1966 (Table 9). Heavy infestations will probably occur in a band from Highway 69 easterly to the Dokis Indian Reserve. Moderate to heavy infestations are expected to develop in the Lost Channel Road area where three egg bands were collected in 1965 compared with nil in 1964. Light infestations are expected in Boulter and the southern part of Nipissing townships, where egg bands were collected for the first time in 1965. No appreciable change in population levels should occur in infestations that have persisted for the past four years in the Muskoka lakes area.

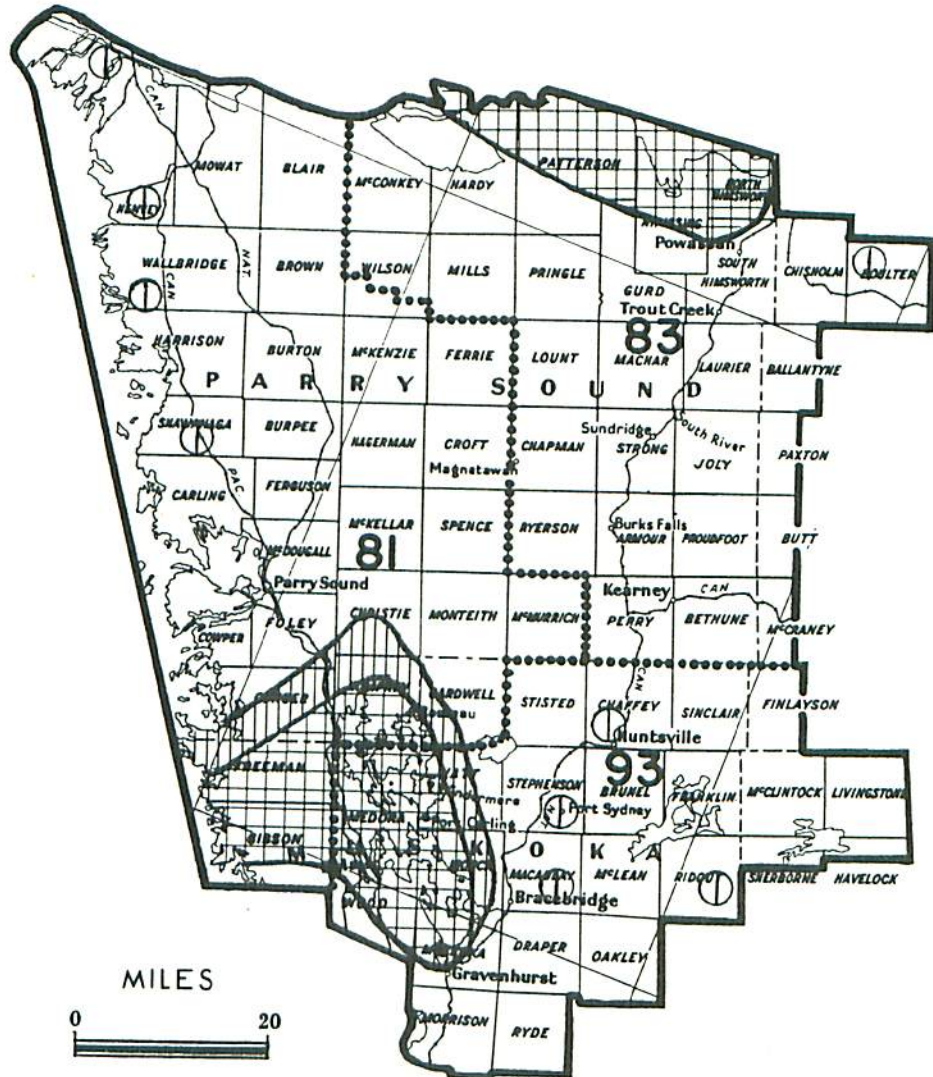
TABLE 9

Summary of Egg Band Counts of the Forest Tent Caterpillar  
in the Parry Sound District 1962-1965

Location (township)	Av. d.b.h. of sample trees in inches	No. of trees sampled 1965	Total no. of egg bands			Defoliation forecast	
			1962	1963	1964	1965	1966
Nipissing	6	3	-	-	-	24	Severe
French River	5	2	-	1	1	30	"
Mowat	5	3	-	0	0	3	Moderate
Medora	6	1	12	7	56	27	Severe
Wood	6	1	11	21	16	22	"
Boulter	6	3	-	-	-	1	Light
South Himsworth	5	3	-	-	-	1	"
Wallbridge	4	3	-	-	-	0	Nil
Gibson	6	1	-	-	-	32	Severe
McAulay	5	3	-	-	-	1	Light
Ridout	5	3	-	-	-	0	Nil

A light trap has been operated in Ridout Township since 1961 to capture forest tent caterpillar moths. Results show that the number of moths reached a peak in 1962 (Table 10).

# PARRY SOUND DISTRICT



## FOREST TENT CATERPILLAR

Areas in which defoliation occurred in 1965

### Legend

- Light defoliation..... ⊙
- Moderate defoliation..... ▨
- Severe defoliation..... ▩



TABLE 10

Summary of Malacosoma disstria Hbn. Moths Recovered in a Light Trap  
in the Parry Sound District for the Years 1961-1965

Location (township)	Total no. of female and male moths				
	1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Ridout	13	71	56	31	19

Cedar Sawfly, Monoctenus fulvus Nort.

No appreciable change in population levels of this insect occurred at sample points in 1965 compared with 1964 (Table 11). Population levels were relatively high for the second consecutive year in Machar and Shawanaga townships.

TABLE 11

Summary of Cedar Sawfly Counts in the Parry Sound District  
from 1961 to 1965

Location (township)	Av. d.b.h. of sample trees in inches	Total no. of larvae per 15-tray sample				
		1961	1962	1963	1964	1965
Machar	5	2	10	0	28	24
Humphry	6	28	1	17	11	9
McKonkey	6	14	13	5	4	7
Shawanaga	5	47	31	29	54	41

Red-headed Pine Sawfly, Neodiprion lecontei (Fitch)

Heavy infestations of this sawfly persisted for the second consecutive year in red and Scots pine plantations in Ridout, Stephenson, Livingstone, Wood, Medora, Gibson, McAulay, McClintock, and Freeman townships in Division 93. Mortality of red and Scots pine trees occurred in many of these plantations. Defoliation ranged from 40 per cent on larger trees to 100 per cent on trees up to six feet in height.

Moderate infestations were found commonly on hedgerows and individual red and jack pine trees along roadsides in Wilson, Mills, and Pringle townships in Division 83. Localized pockets of moderate infestation were observed in Machar and Ballantyne townships.

Control measures were recommended and most infested plantation were sprayed with good results. Colony counts based on the examination of 100 trees at each location are summarized in Table 12.

TABLE 12

Summary of Red-headed Pine Sawfly Colony Counts  
in the Parry Sound District, 1964-1965

Location (township)	Tree species	Av. height of sample trees in feet	No. of trees infested		Av. no. of colonies per infested tree	
			1964	1965	1964	1965
Henry	rP	7	7		4	7
Mowat	jP	20	0		0	0
Ryde	rP	10	0		0	0
Wilson	rP	8	4		0	4
Ridout	rP	6	61		-	1.2
Livingstone	rP	6	83		-	1.2
Wood	rP	20	10		-	4.7
Stephenson	scP	6	52		-	1.2

Red-pine Sawfly, Neodiprion nanulus nanulus Schedl.

No appreciable change in population levels of this insect occurred in the district in 1965 compared with 1964. Counts based on the examination of ten sample trees at four locations are summarized in Table 13.

TABLE 13

Summary of Red-pine Sawfly Colony Counts in the Parry Sound District  
in 1964 and 1965

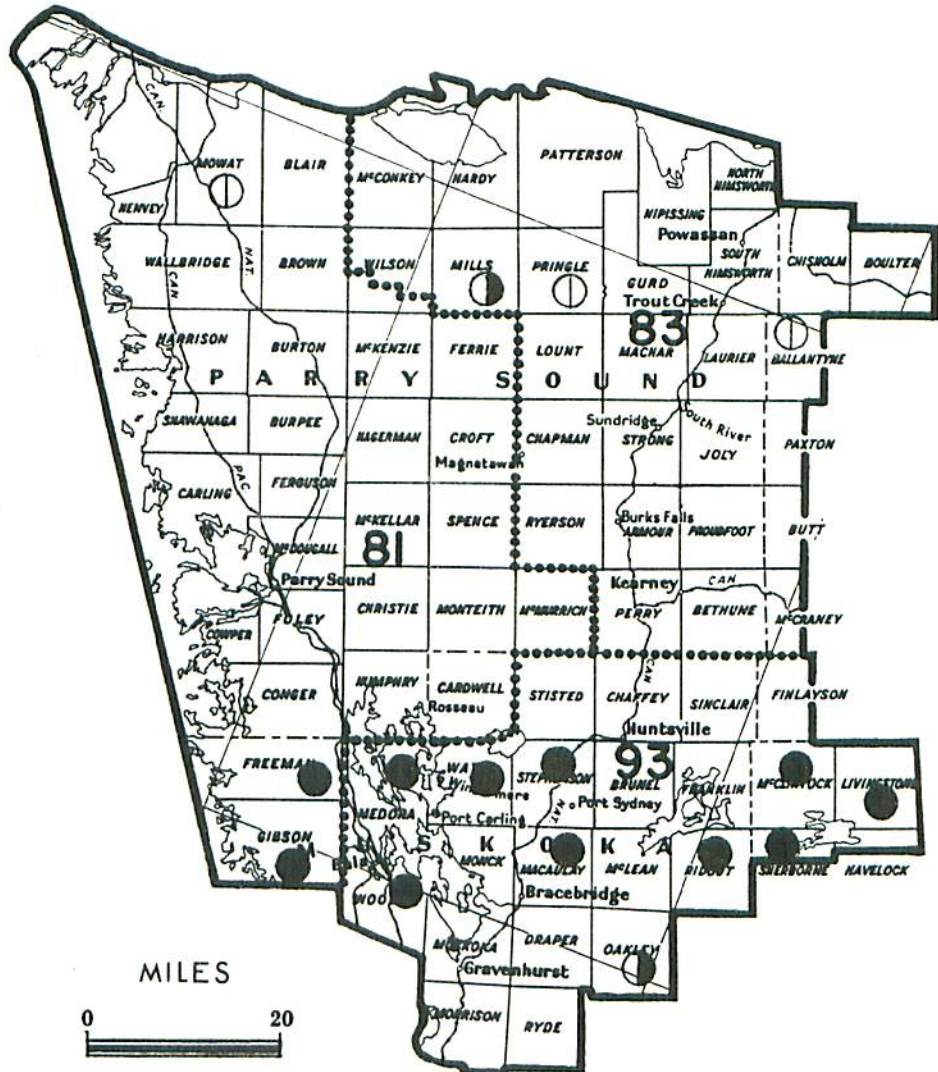
Location (township)	Av. d.b.h. of sample trees in inches	No. of trees infested	Av. no. of colonies per tree	
			1964	1965
McDougall	5	3	1.1	1.0
Franklin	6	4	0.7	1.7
South Himsforth	6	5	2.0	1.0
Perry	6	3	0.5	1.0

Black-headed Jack-pine Sawfly, Neodiprion pratti banksianae Roh.

A decline in population levels of this sawfly occurred throughout the district in 1965. Fewer jack pine trees were infested in 1965 than in the past four years. Defoliation did not exceed five per cent at any sample point. Counts based on the examination of ten trees at each location are summarized in Table 14.



# PARRY SOUND DISTRICT



## RED-HEADED PINE SAWFLY

Locations where infestations  
were observed in 1965

### Legend

- Light infestation..... ○
- Medium infestation..... ◐
- Heavy infestation..... ●

TABLE 14

Summary of Black-headed Jack-pine Sawfly Colony Counts  
in the Parry Sound District, 1964-1965

Location (township)	No. of trees infested		Av. no. of colonies per infested tree	
	1964	1965	1964	1965
Monck	10	0	2.1	0.0
Draper	8	3	2.1	1.0
Ryerson	10	10	1.6	1.4
McDougall	6	1	1.0	1.0
McLean	5	2	1.0	1.5
Medora	6	4	1.0	1.0
Monteith	10	6	1.6	2.2

Red-headed Jack-pine Sawfly, Neodiprion virginianus complex

No appreciable change in population levels of this insect occurred in 1965 (Table 15). Since 1959, only small numbers of colonies have been found in the district.

TABLE 15

Summary of Red-headed Jack-pine Sawfly Colony Counts  
in the Parry Sound District in 1964 and 1965

Location (township)	Av. d.b.h. of sample trees in inches	Av. no. of colonies per tree	
		1964	1965
Pickereel River	4	0.0	0.0
Henvey	5	1.7	2.1
Shawanaga	4	0.4	0.5
Burton	5	0.1	0.0
Mowat	5	0.7	0.9

White-pine Weevil, Pissodes strobi Peck

Medium infestations occurred in Scots pine plantations at several locations in McMurrich, MacKenzie, and Armour townships, where 8, 13, and 12 per cent respectively of the trees examined were infested. For the fourth consecutive year a heavy infestation persisted in a pocket of white pine reproduction near Huntsville in Chaffey Township. Light infestations were observed on Scots and jack pine trees in McAulay and McLean townships.

Counts based on the examination of 100 trees at each location are summarized in Table 16.



TABLE 16

Summary of Damage by the White-pine Weevil in the Parry Sound District  
in 1964 and 1965

Location (township)	Tree species	Per cent trees infested		Per cent cumulative damage all years	
		1964	1965	1964	1965
McLean	rP	0	0	18	18
McLean	jP	3	0	41	41
McAulay	jP	1	2	55	57
McMurrich	jP	2	0	41	41
McMurrich	scP	-	8	-	23
MacKenzie	scP	-	13	-	37
Armour	scP	8	12	41	53
Chaffey	wP	-	22	-	43

Balsam Bud-mining Sawfly, Pleroneura borealis Felt.

As in alternate years in the past, population levels declined at all sample points. Counts of infested buds did not exceed four per cent at any location (Table 17).

TABLE 17

Summary of Balsam Bud-mining Sawfly Larval Counts  
in the Parry Sound District, 1962-1965

Location (township)	Av. height of sample trees in feet	No. of new buds examined	Per cent buds infested			
			1962	1963	1964	1965
McLean	24	227	10.8	1.4	17.0	0.0
Chaffey	35	289	15.9	0.6	7.8	0.3
MacKenzie	30	327	6.9	1.1	8.1	3.3
Ferguson	25	296	10.8	2.9	7.1	0.1
Joly	22	311	7.3	1.6	5.8	0.0
Franklin	45	296	6.1	0.4	13.7	0.8
Laurier	35	301	21.0	3.0	11.3	0.8
Wilson	35	360	15.6	0.0	6.0	1.0

Larch Sawfly, Pristiphora erichsonii Htg.

Population levels of this sawfly have declined since 1962. However, a medium infestation has persisted in a small 10 acre stand of larch near Byng Inlet in Wallbridge Township. Defoliation approximated 20 per cent at this location. Elsewhere, light infestations were observed on occasional trees at several locations. Defoliation did not exceed 10 per cent.

Mountain-ash Sawfly, Pristiphora geniculata Htg.

Pockets of light infestation of this insect persisted on groups of mountain ash throughout the district, and were most numerous in Gurd, McClintock, Wood, Perry, McAulay, McDougall, Shawanaga, and Wallbridge townships. Defoliation did not exceed 15 per cent.

A Poplar Leaf Roller, Pseudexentera oregonana Wlshm.

Most of the heavy infestations that have occurred in the district since 1963 declined in intensity in 1965. Heavy infestations persisted in the northwest part of the district where defoliation of trembling aspen ranged from 50 per cent to 90 per cent. In the remainder of the district infestations declined to light and moderate intensity and defoliation ranged from 10 to 40 per cent.

TABLE 18

## Summary of Miscellaneous Insects Collected in the Parry Sound District

Insect	Host(s)	Remarks
<i>Acleris variana</i> Fern.	wS, eH	Small numbers of insects at each location.
<i>Adelges lariciatus</i> (Patch)	wS, tL	Heavy infestations of this needle gall on numerous trees through the district.
<i>Adelges</i> sp.	wS	Common on scattered trees near Marshes Falls
<i>Altica populi</i> Brown	bPo	Common on several trees at one location in Perry Twp.
<i>Anchylopera subaequana</i> Zell.	W	Moderate infestation of leaf rollers near Port Carmen in Chapman Twp.
<i>Aphrophora parallela</i> Say	wP, scP	Moderate infestations on white pine near Katrine in Armour Twp. and on jack pine near Vankoughnet in Oakley Twp.
<i>Archips cerasivoranus</i> Fitch	pCh, cCh	Cherry ugly-nest caterpillar at a very low level in the district.
<i>Arge</i> sp.	Al	Few colonies of this sawfly observed in the district.
<i>Argyresthia laricella</i> Kft.	tL	Light infestations of this twig borer common in Chapman and Stephenson twps.
<i>Caripeta divisata</i> Wlk.	wS, bF	Small numbers of larvae in beating samples at each location.
<i>Choristoneura fumiferana</i> Clem.	wS, bF	Collected on beating tray in small numbers.
<i>Coleophora</i> sp.	wB	Collected in small numbers at one location near the French River.



TABLE 18 (continued)

Insect	Host(s)	Remarks
<i>Dasyneura balsamicola</i> Lintn.	bF	Needle gall common on most balsam fir through district.
<i>Epinotia solandriana</i> Linn.	wB, tA	Moderate infestations on white birch and trembling aspen near French and Pickerel rivers.
<i>Eupithecia filmata</i> Pears.	eH, bF	Common in beating samples at several locations.
<i>Eupithecia</i> sp.	bF, eH, wS	Common on beating tray at several locations through district.
<i>Fenusa dornhni</i> (Tischb.)	Al	Moderate infestation of this leaf miner near Hekkla in Cardwell Twp.
<i>Fenusa pusilla</i> (Lep.)	wB	Heavy infestations of this leaf miner on small white birch in Machar, Mowat, and Burpee twps.
<i>Gonioctena americana</i> (Schaeff.)	tA	Several small colonies of this leaf beetle at two locations.
<i>Hydriomena divisaria</i> Wlk.	wS, bF	Small numbers of this looper at all locations.
<i>Hyphantria cunea</i> Dru.	Al	At the lowest level since 1959, only one colony collected in 1965.
<i>Ips pini</i> Say	wP	Common in logs and stumps near Ravenscliffe in Chaffey Twp.
<i>Lambdina fiscellaria</i> <i>fiscellaria</i> Gn.	eH, bF	Counts in all sample plots at a very low level.
<i>Nematus erythrogaster</i> Nort.	Al	Only one colony of this sawfly collected in the district.
<i>Neodiprion nigroscutum</i> Midd.	rP	Small numbers of this sawfly observed near Trout Creek.
<i>Operophtera bruceata</i> Hlst.	sM, I, tA shrubs	Light infestations common in Findlayson, Sinclair, and Livingstone twps.
<i>Petrova albicapitana</i> (Busck.)	jP	Small numbers of pitch nodule makers at three locations.
<i>Phenacaspis pinifoliae</i> Fitch	jP, scP	Heavy scale damage to Scots and jack pine trees near Parry Sound.
<i>Phyllocolpa</i> sp.	tA	Population levels increased at several locations in the district.
<i>Phyllocoptes aceris-crumena</i> Rly.	sM	Severe gall damage to leaves of sugar maple at several locations.
<i>Pikonema alaskensis</i> (Roh.)	wS	Light infestations of this sawfly common at three locations.

TABLE 18 (continued)

Insect	Host(s)	Remarks
<i>Pineus coloradensis</i> Gill.	rP	This aphid common on a few scattered trees near Pakesley.
<i>Pityokteines sparsus</i> Lec.	bF	Bark beetles common in fir logs at two locations.
<i>Polygraphus rufipennis</i> Kby.	wS	Bark beetles common in spruce logs at two locations.
<i>Prociphilus tessellatus</i> (Fitch)	Al	Woolly aphid on alder common through the district.
<i>Profenusa thomsoni</i> (Konow)	wB	Small numbers of this leaf mining sawfly on birch at one location.
<i>Rhabdophaga swaini</i> Felt	wS	Low populations recorded at all sample points in 1965.
<i>Saperda moesta</i> Lec.	tA	Poplar borer common on small trees near airport in July Twp.
<i>Semiothisa dispuncta</i> Wlk.	wS, bF	These loopers found commonly on beating tray at several locations.
<i>Sparganothis acerivorana</i> MacK.	sM	Leaf rollers common on sugar maple trees along Peninsula Road in Medora Twp.
<i>Thera procteri</i> Brower	Juniper	Common on juniper along Highway 103 in Gibson and Freeman twps.
<i>Toumeyella numismaticum</i> P. McD.	JP	Light infestation of tortoise scale near French and Pickerel rivers.
<i>Vasates quadripes</i> Shim	siM	This leaf gall common on this host through district.
<i>Zeiraphera ratzeburgiana</i> Ratz.	wS	Moderate infestations of this new shoot insect at two locations.