



PEST REPORT

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A LODGEPOLE PINE NEEDLE MINER INFESTATION IN NELSON FOREST DISTRICT

Jack S. Monts

A pine needle miner, *Zelleria haimbachi*, has caused spectacular foliage discoloration on a 1,000-acre stand of young lodgepole pine along Torrent Creek northwest of Skookumchuck. Larval feeding within the needle sheaths caused the developing needles on the 1975 shoots to discolor and die, giving the infested stand a scorched appearance. Later this year the damaged needles will drop and the stand will appear green again.

The insects are now in the pupal stage; the adult moths will emerge late in July and lay eggs from which young larvae overwinter. Given a mild winter similar foliage damage could result in 1976, but this pest is not known to cause tree mortality.