

PEST REPORT

Pacific Forest Research Centre • 506 West Burnside Rd. • Victoria, B.C. • V8Z 1M5

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DEFOLIATION OF BROADLEAVED TREES IN THE GREATER VICTORIA REGION

Colin Wood

For the fourth consecutive year, the Bruce spanworm, *Operophtera bruceata*, has extensively damaged the foliage of a wide variety of broadleaved trees including oak, maple, willow and fruit trees throughout the Victoria, Saanich and surrounding regions. Feeding on the foliage is expected to continue for another three weeks. The western tent caterpillar, *Malacosoma californica pluviale*, and several other species, also continue to cause additional defoliation of deciduous hosts.

The high numbers of spanworms and tent caterpillars are expected to continue unless natural control factors such as parasitism and predation occur this year.

Light defoliation of poplar trees by the satin moth, *Stilpnotia salicis*, can be expected at some locations within the Greater Victoria region.

Silver-spotted tiger moth larvae colonies have defoliated individual branches of isolated Douglas-fir trees throughout the region.

Additional information on these and other pest problems is available at the Pacific Forest Research Centre.