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DOUGLAS-FIR TUSSOCK MOTH INFESTATIONS IN THE

KAMLOOPS AREA

Jack Monts

The operational spray program conducted early in June by the British Columbia Forest Service achieved a high degree of success in protecting numerous selected stands of Douglas-fir from further defoliation by the Douglas-fir tussock moth. Outside the sprayed areas severe defoliation occurred along the North Thompson River from above Westside to Dairy Creek, on the Kamloops Indian Reserve and north along the ridges to Strawberry Hill and Heffley Creek along the Palmer Forsythe Road. Large patches of trees near the Indian Garden Ranch south of Savona were stripped of foliage.

The tussock moth larvae have almost completed feeding for the year and soon will form pupal cocoons on the twigs and branches. In the fall, sampling of the overwintering egg population will provide data for predicting further need for the use of insecticides in 1977.