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July 13, 1978.

FIRST RELEASE OF THE LARCH SAWFLY PARASITE,
OLEUSICAMPE BENEFACITOR, IN BRITISH COLUMBIA,

JULY, 1978

Colin S. Wood

On July 10 and 13, adult parasites were released in a sawfly infested stand of western larch just south of Sparwood, Nelson Forest District, to establish the parasite to assist in the control of the Larch Sawfly, *Pristiphora erichsonii*.

The sawfly severely defoliated approximately 500 acres of larch trees in the Elk River Valley in the vicinity of Sparwood in 1977. In 1978, the defoliator is widespread in larch stands throughout much of the Elk River Valley from Line Creek (near Elkford) to Elko, and from Sparwood east along Michel Creek to Alexander Creek.