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# PEST REPORT

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

July 13, 1979.

LEAF AND TWIG BLIGHT OF POPLAR

AND BRUCE SPANWORM

IN THE PRINCE RUPERT FOREST REGION,

1979

Don F. Doidge

Leaf and twig blight, Venturia macularis, affected most of the trembling aspen trees in the Bulkley Valley from Burns Lake to Hazelton for the third consecutive year. The disease produces a brown patchwork effect in the aspen stands. Heaviest infection is at Decker Lake, Grouse Mountain and Walcott; moderate to heavy browning is noticeable in the Houston-Perow area and from Broman Lake to the east end of Burns Lake; and light to moderate damage has occurred from Hazelton to Smithers and around Tintagel and Sheraton.

The Bruce spanworm, Operophtera bruceata, has defoliated trembling aspen in the Smithers, Houston and Burns Lake areas of the Region. Small patches of aspen, 5-20 ha, have been defoliated at Glacier Gulch, Round Lake, Quick, Decker Lake, and an area 3 km long between Perow and Knockholt has been completely defoliated. The Bruce spanworm was most often found on aspen also affected by leaf and twig blight.

Most of the affected trembling aspen trees should recover.