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PEST REPORT

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

March 1987

Balsam woolly aphid, Adelges piceae extends beyond the regulation area in the Vancouver Forest Region

by

R.L. Ferris
Forest Insect and Disease Survey

Samples of amabilis fir from West Thurlow Island (Map 1) submitted by British Columbia Forest Products were confirmed to be infested with balsam woolly aphid (BWA). The initial diagnosis by insectary staff at the Pacific Forestry Centre in Victoria has also been confirmed by Biosystematics in Ottawa.

This recent discovery is outside the previously known BWA infestation zone and regulation area. BWA has also been found at Rath Trevor Beach on Vancouver Island, where small populations were found on 6 semi-mature grand fir in 1985 and at Powell River where 1 semi-mature ornamental fir was found to be infested in 1986 (Map 1). Both areas are inside the regulation area but outside of the previous infestation zone. The expansion could affect nurseries and plantations, as transporting true firs out of infested areas is regulated.

The Forest and Insect Disease Survey will further assess the West Thurlow Island situation and adjacent areas to more accurately determine extent and severity of the infestation. Special survey efforts will be continued during the 1987 field season prior to possible changes in the infestation - regulation areas.

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