

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

FOREST INSECT SURVEY

INTRODUCTION

The number of insect collections made in 1953 totalled 6,386 compared with 6,685 during 1952. The Victoria Laboratory received 3,014 collections from the coastal forests of British Columbia, and the Vernon sub-laboratory handled 3,372 from the interior forests east of the Coast Mountains. The survey of insect diseases was continued in 1953. Over 600 specimens involving 21 insect species were submitted for examination and diagnosis. The incidence of disease in the important insects of the Province was low, but there was a significant amount of virus and fungous disease in *Malacosoma disstria* Hbn. and *Malacosoma pluviale* (Dyar) collections.

The motor-vessel "J. M. Swaine" was replaced by a smaller, faster boat in 1953. The new vessel was used throughout the season in the southern waters around Vancouver Island, the Johnston Strait Islands, and along the mainland from Vancouver north to Ocean Falls.

Collections received during 1953 were distributed among the principal tree species as follows:

Coniferous hosts	Collections	
	Interior Region	Coastal Region
Cedar, western red.....	23	259
Cedar, yellow.....	.....	8
Douglas fir.....	1,124	599
Fir, alpine.....	211	75
Fir, amabilis.....	.....	152
Fir, grand.....	7	57
Hemlock, mountain.....	.....	25
Hemlock, western.....	292	899
Juniper, common.....	7	.....
Juniper, rocky mountain.....	25	.....
Larch, eastern.....	14	.....
Larch, western.....	151	.....
Pine, lodgepole.....	261	152
Pine, ponderosa.....	143	3
Pine, western white.....	44	31
Pine, whitebark.....	.....	5
Spruce.....	26	1
Spruce, black.....	48	.....
Spruce, Engelmann.....	186	.....
Spruce, Sitka.....	.....	198
Spruce, western white.....	.....	101
Spruce, white.....	300	.....
	<hr/> 2,862	<hr/> 2,565

Collections

Deciduous Hosts

Interior Region Coastal Region

Alder.....	40	155
Apple.....		11
Arbutus.....		13
Birch.....	57	5
Cherry.....	26	5
Cottonwood, black.....	35	18
Dogwood.....		4
Hazel.....	5	
Maple.....		2
Maple, broadleaf.....		4
Maple, Douglas.....	5	1
Maple, vine.....		2
Oak, Garry.....		18
Poplar, trembling aspen.....	136	33
Willow.....	99	70
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	403	341
No Hosts.....	46	48
Miscellaneous.....	61	60
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	3,372	3,014

GRAND TOTAL—6,386