

range where the insect has not been found. Alpine Larch, *Larix lyallii* Parl., occurs at high elevations over much

of the range of western larch, but has never been recorded as a host of larch sawfly in British Columbia.

References

- McLeod, J. H. 1951. Notes on the population and parasitism of the larch sawfly, *Pristiphora erichsonii* (Htg.) (Hymenoptera: Tenthredinidae), in British Columbia. Ent. Soc. B.C. Proc. (1951), 48:81-85.
- Hopping, G. R., H. B. Leech, and C. V. G. Morgan. 1943. The larch sawfly, *Pristiphora erichsonii* (Hartig) in British Columbia, with special reference to the cocoon parasites *Mesoleius tentbredinis* Morley and *Trineptis klugii* (Katzburg). Sci. Agric. 24(2): 53-63.

A Record of a Sand Cricket, Stenopelmatinae, from the Coastal Wet Belt of British Columbia

The Stenopelmatinae constitute the first of five sub-families of the Tettigoniidae or long-horned grasshoppers that occur in British Columbia. Insects of this sub-family, generally called Sand or Jerusalem crickets, have enormous, smooth heads and heavily spined front legs for digging in the sandy soil in which they live. They are nocturnal, hiding by day in burrows excavated under stones and bits of wood.

In his list of the Orthoptera of British Columbia (1), Buckell records three species: *Stenopelmatus fuscus* Haldeman of which he collected one specimen from Fairview, just south of Oliver; *S. longispina* Brunner, recorded from Vancouver by Carl Brunner (in Vehr-Zoll-bot. Gesellsch. Wein XXXVIII, p. 261, (1888)), and *Cyphoderris monstrosus* Uhler, the nocturnal wood cricket which is common in the Dry Belt in the aspen groves that fringe timber line.

Specimens of *Stenopelmatus* have no traces of wings; *Cyphoderris* males have short, stubby tegmina with which they stridulate, but the females are entirely wingless. I have taken a few specimens of *S. fuscus* from under boards near the international boundary at

Osoyoos but had no record from the coast until I received a full grown specimen from Mrs. Minnie Peterson of Semiamu Bay who said it was destroying potatoes in her garden. Now this bay is given, in the Geographical Gazetteer for B.C. as "Georgia Strait East of Boundary Bay, New Westminster District" and may well be considered the Vancouver region. Therefore the specimen I received from Mrs. Peterson is probably *Stenopelmatus longispina* Brunner and it would be the first taking of this insect since 1888, the second record for the province.

I immediately wrote to Mrs. Peterson begging her to sacrifice her potato patch for the sake of science and to collect me all the specimens she could, but the first is the only one received so far; Mrs. Peterson is apparently not a scientist, or the insect is excessively rare at the coast.

Reference:

- (1) Buckell, E. R. 1930. The Dermaptera and Orthoptera of Vancouver Island. Proc. Ent. Soc. B.C. 27: p. 46.
—G. J. Spencer, University of British Columbia.

Melandrya striata Say at Vernon, B.C. (Coleoptera, Melandryidae)

The occurrence of *Melandrya striata* Say at Courtenay, B.C., has been recorded by Gregson (Ent. Soc. B.C., Proc. 41.36, 1944). The only other B.C. specimens that I have been able to locate are in the Canadian National Collection; one is from Victoria and the other is of doubtful authenticity as there is no locality on the label.

On May 16 and 17, 1950, I collected 13 larvae, 4 pupae and 5 callow adults of this beetle from stumps of white birch *Betula papyrifera* Marsh, 8 miles east of Vernon, B.C. The larval galleries were traced to a depth of 4 inches in the rotting wood, but the pupal cells were mostly within an inch of the surface.

—J. Grant, Forest Biology Laboratory, Vernon, B.C.

A new record of *Annabilla arvalis* Hy. Edw. in British Columbia

I took a fine specimen of *Annabilla arvalis* in Saanich, Vancouver Island on March 10, 1958. This appears, from my information, to be the first record since two were taken by E. M. Anderson at Goldstream, V.I., March 22, 1903.

This species formerly masqueraded as *Brepbos fletcheri* in our published lists, but recent investigations have shown its real status (see Provincial Museum Report 1952).

Some doubt has existed that it was present in B.C. since no specimens had been

taken for so long. Evidently it is an insect that cannot be collected deliberately owing to the fact that its habits do not coincide with our method of approach. It seems to be met with only by pure chance and good luck.

The caterpillar is known to feed on *Montia perfoliata*, therefore it should be looked for where this plant grows, but always very early in the season.

—George A. Hardy.