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## ANNOTATED LIST OF FOREST INSECTS OF BRITISH COLUMBIA PART IX—CARIPETA SPP. (Geometridae)<sup>1</sup>

D. A. Ross<sup>2</sup> and D. Evans<sup>3</sup>

*Caripeta* larvae feed on the needles of conifers but no appreciable defoliation by any of the three local species has been recorded in British Columbia. Full grown larvae are about 1½ inches long and may have one or two indistinct dark transverse lines on the front of the head. Body colours are for the most part dull, variable with sometimes obscure brownish X to H markings on the dorsum, darkest along their anterior arms; setae on the upper body arise from small swellings or tubercles that are variable in size. *Caripeta* spp. overwinter as pupae.

**C. divisata** Wlk. — *Tsuga heterophylla*, *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, *Picea*, all native spp., *Abies lasiocarpa*, *A. grandis*, *A. amabilis*, *Larix occidentalis*, and occasionally on *Pinus monticola*, *P. contorta* and *Thuja plicata*; a generally distributed species south of latitude 56°; some years it is numerous. LARVA: head pale brown with dark herring-bone markings; body yellowish and grey or brown; interrupted off-white or yellow subdorsal stripes, sometimes obscure;

elongate yellow, occasionally whitish, black-edged intersegmental patch anterior to and encompassing each abdominal spiracle; spiracular stripe may be continuous, may in part be suffused with reddish brown; broken yellowish subventral stripes; tubercles prominent; tubercles *ii* on central abdominal segments, black and yellow.

**C. aequaliaria** Grt. — *Pseudotsuga menziesii*, *Pinus ponderosa*, *P. contorta* (4 records), *P. monticola* (2), *Tsuga heterophylla* (2); Southern B.C. and Southern V.I., much less numerous than *divisata*. LARVA: of dark pigmentation; little whitish or yellowish colour along spiracular area; brownish about the abdominal spiracles.

**C. angustiorata** Wlk.—*Pinus contorta*; Central B.C. and Southern interior B.C. LARVA: grey or reddish brown; one specimen with high proportion of black; dorsal stripe usually yellowish; irregular yellowish pleural fold; central abdominal spiracles each narrowly encircled by an unpigmented ring; tubercles *ii* on central abdominal segments black; obscure transverse ridges between tubercles *ii*.

<sup>1</sup>Contribution No. 543, Forest Biology Division, Research Branch, Department of Agriculture, Ottawa, Canada.

<sup>2</sup>Forest Biology Laboratory, Vernon, B.C.

<sup>3</sup>Forest Biology Laboratory, Victoria, B.C.

### Note on a Ground Beetle eating a new-born Field Mouse

This information was given me by Dr. James Bendell of the Department of Zoology.

In July 1958, Dr. Bendell was walking on the south side of the campus by a grassy roadside when he heard the shrill screams of a mouse. Upon locating the sound he found a *Microtus* or vole nest containing several blind suckling young, one of which

was being chewed by a male *Carabus nemoralis* Müll. He capture the beetle and the mouse so there was no question as to their identity. The beetle had eaten the back of the thigh and the abdominal wall in the inguinal region so that the body cavity was visible. This beetle is normally a predator on earthworms.

—G. J. Spencer, University of British Columbia, Vancouver.