



Fig. 1.—Lead casts of galleries formed by wood-boring cerambycid larvae, *Monochamus* sp., displayed in a plastic cylinder. —Photo by J. C. Holms.

### A METHOD OF DEMONSTRATING THE FORM OF LARVAL GALLERIES OF WOOD-BORING INSECTS<sup>1</sup>

N. J. GEISTLINGER AND D. W. TAYLOR<sup>2</sup>

A method of displaying the characteristics of the larval galleries of wood-boring insects was developed by using lead casts of the galleries. A dry section of log that had been infested with cerambycids was split longitudinally into several pieces to expose a larval gallery. Larval boring shreds were removed and the gallery was cleaned throughout its length. The pieces of log were then reassembled to form a mould held in place by wire or clamps.

The entrance hole of the cleaned gallery was sealed with adhesive tape, and molten lead was poured into the exit hole. After the lead in the gallery mould had hardened for three to five minutes, the wood was carefully chipped away. The cast was then separated from the wood and dressed

with a coarse file, taking care not to alter its shape or the size of the entrance and exit holes.

A demonstration model was constructed by cementing the gallery casts, in natural positions, into a hollow, transparent plastic cylinder 20 inches long, and 6 inches in inside diameter with walls  $\frac{1}{8}$  inch thick. Holes of  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch diameter were made with an electric hand drill through the walls of the cylinder at the position of the entrance and exit hole for each cast. These holes were shaped with a small round file to receive each end of the lead cast. The casts were painted and then cemented into place with Lepage's Model "B" (No. 440) airplane cement.

The cylinder was set vertically in a heavy wooden base (Fig. 1). A thin circular sheet of plastic was cemented to the top of the cylinder to keep out dust.

<sup>1</sup>Contribution No. 853, Forest Entomology and Pathology Branch, Department of Forestry, Ottawa, Canada.

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