

***Plebeius aquilo megalis* McD.**

Nine species of the genus are recorded by Jones in British Columbia. Four are known from Vancouver Island. *P. aquilo* is an arctic species, the form *megalis* occurring on the Island. It has a wing expanse of 25 mm. Generally it is brownish blue with a black dot on each of the four wings.

A specimen observed on Mt. Becher, NW of Comox Lake on August 1, 1962, was seen to deposit an egg on a leaf of *Saxifraga bronchialis* near the tip of a shoot, another was found in a similar situation nearby.

Ovum

Size 0.9 mm. by 0.3 mm. Shaped like a flattened turban; the micropylar area deeply indented; closely pitted with round depressions, otherwise smooth, colour white. Hatched on August 13.

Larva—1st Instar

Length 1.5 mm. Head small, shiny, dark brown. Body rather short; white soon becoming honey-coloured then vinaceous with a fairly dense cover-

ing of very short hairs in four indistinct double rows.

2nd Instar

August 30. Length 3 mm. Head as described. Body slightly onisciform but the head not retracted; a rich vinaceous purple; faint, thin, pale subdorsal lines, with fuscous hairs in rows as described. The shed cuticle of the first stage was evident for a short time as a thin white tissue at the end of the body. They fed on the epidermis at the base of the upper surface of the leaves, where they also rested, protected by the overlapping leaves.

September 11. The larvae rested at the base of a leaf and ceased to feed, apparently having entered hibernation.

February 3, 1963. The larvae were in the same position as on Sept. 11. They were placed in a glass tube lightly covered with muslin and kept in an open shed. Both survived until late March, 1963, but did not feed on a garden specimen of *Saxifraga bronchialis*.

Attacks on Humans by *IXODES ANGUSTUS* Neumann, the Coast Squirrel Tick, and *I. SORICIS* Gregson, the Shrew Tick

In his publication on the ticks of Canada Gregson mentions (p. 38) two British Columbia and three United States records of *Ixodes angustus* Neumann, attacking humans. I now add three more records.

On September 17, 1958 a flat adult female was removed from a 9-year old girl at White Rock, B.C. The location of the attachment was not recorded.

On September 26, 1958, a flat adult female was removed from under the arm of a Vancouver woman who had been tramping through the bush at White Rock, five days before the tick was detected.

On October 23, 1963, an engorged female was removed by a doctor from the abdomen of a middle-aged woman in North Surrey. The doctor reported that the woman was house-bound with a sick husband and seldom went out, but that she had a cat which could have brought in a small mammal which harbored the tick. He was surprised

at the point of attachment because the woman wore several layers of clothing, including what he called "corsets", so the tick must have attached at night when the woman had removed her garments.

The other unusual record is that of a flat adult female of the shrew tick, *Ixodes soricis* Gregson, which was removed from the outer upper arm of a 14-year-old girl from North Vancouver, on April 11, 1960. In this case also the tick may have come from a shrew brought into the house by a cat because children and shrews inhabit rather different strata on the earth's surface.

Gregson, John D. The Ixodoidea of Canada. Pub. 930, Science Service, Entomology Division, Can. Dept. of Agric. Jan., 1956.

—G. J. Spencer, University of British Columbia, Vancouver 8, B.C.