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The Eastern Larch Beetle, *DENDROCTONUS SIMPLEX* Lec. In British Columbia and Yukon Territory

The occurrence of the eastern larch beetle, *Dendroctonus simplex* Lec., in British Columbia was established June 1, 1960, when the writer collected adults and young larvae from a felled eastern larch, *Larix laricina* (Du Roi) K. Koch, four miles west of Chetwynd on the Hart Highway. In mid-July 1960, adults and larvae were found in two flood-damaged trees 19 miles south of Fort Nelson. Dead parent adults, living pupae, and teneral adults were collected from these trees on August 18.

Further records were obtained by E. Pottinger on June 6, 1962, five miles east of Chetwynd. Adults were collected from two larch logs averaging 10 inches d.b.h. A month later an adjacent standing larch that had been heavily attacked in the spring was discovered. The foliage was beginning to fade and adults, large larvae, and teneral adults were found beneath the bark. On

September 4, teneral adults were already taking on the dark colour of mature beetles.

The eastern larch beetle was found near Watson Lake, Yukon Territory in 1962 by J. V. C. Holms. Adults and larvae were recovered on July 19 from an 8-inch trap tree which had been felled on May 26. The attack had been much heavier on the stump than on the log.

Judging by the distribution of our records, it seems probable that the eastern larch beetle occurs throughout the range of its host in northeastern British Columbia and southeastern Yukon Territory.

Identification of the beetles collected has been verified by G. R. Hopping of the Calgary Forest Entomology and Pathology Laboratory.

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