

in tunnels from which they have just emerged, the eggs should be mature in their ovaries and ready to be laid shortly after they emerge. To test this point, I asked the caretaker of the log house to drop newly emerged beetles into a bottle of preservative. I dissected nine of these and found that none had mature reproductive organs; in fact both ovaries and testes were so small as to be barely discernible. A specimen from West Vancouver which had just emerged from the railing of a small bridge had almost mature ova in well-developed ovarioles. It may have matured before it was caught. Only by dissecting newly-emerged beetles and by rearing others can we decide if this species can mate and lay eggs shortly after it has emerged. It seems reasonable that it should require a flight period and maturation in the sun before depositing fertile eggs.

As support for the view that maturation of larvae sometimes takes many years, I quote from a letter dated 22 August, 1955 from R. L. Furniss, Chief, Division of Forest Insect Re-

search, U.S.D.A., Portland, Oregon:—"In 1939 I thought it would be a good idea to attempt to rear *Buprestis* from the egg to the adult stage because all of the records of prolonged development up to that time were of a circumstantial nature. That year and for several years subsequently we were able to get *B. aurulenta* and *B. langi* established in blocks of Douglas-fir. Periodically since then we have dissected the blocks, measured the larvae and re-established the survivors in other blocks of wood. Quite a number of them are still in rearing. Some have been in rearing for 16 years. The most advanced larvae are about 1/2 grown. Some of them have grown only 1 millimeter since they were introduced into the blocks 13 to 16 years ago. Consequently I expect that in another 15 or 20 years some of the adults will begin to emerge. Quite likely the more retarded individuals will vie with your 50-year old stock for longevity."

This experiment appears to support the view that the larval development of this beetle is sometimes remarkably protracted.

References

1. Linsley, E. G., 1943. Delayed emergence of *Buprestis aurulenta* from structural timbers. *J. Econ. Ent.* 36:348-349.
2. Spencer, G. J., 1930. Insects emerging from prepared timber in buildings. *Proc. Entomol. Soc. of Brit. Columbia* 27:6-10.

Adult Insect Collection, Forest Entomology Laboratory, Vernon, B.C.

The writers have prepared this statement for the benefit of entomologists interested in obtaining information on host records, insect distribution, etc., in the interior of British Columbia and Yukon Territory.

The number of pinned adult specimens in the collection is estimated at over 25,000. Much of the material has been identified by specialists of the Entomology Research Institute, Ottawa. In all there are over 3,100 designated species distributed as follows in the major orders:

Order	No. of families	No. of species
Lepidoptera	43	724
Coleoptera	77	1,749
Hymenoptera	33	225
Diptera	33	227
Hemiptera	14	124
Homoptera	7	61

The collection is made up largely of insects that frequent forest trees and shrubs; although others such as Carabidae (245 species) are well represented. Most lepidopterous specimens were reared from immature stages taken during the course of the Forest Insect Survey; the majority of coleopterous specimens were collected as adults, a number by early entomologists such as Ralph Hopping.

Most of the Diptera and over two-thirds of the Hymenoptera are parasites reared at Vernon from host material collected for the Forest Insect Survey.

—J. K. Harvey and D. A. Ross, *Forest Entomology Laboratory, Vernon, B.C.*