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## A FURTHER NOTE ON THE FOOD HABITS OF THE BRINE FLY, *EPHYDRA HIAN* SAY.

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In 1938 a paper was presented to the Entomological Society of British Columbia titled "A Note on Brine Flies in British Columbia" (Proc. Ent. Soc. British Columbia, No. 35, pp. 11-13; February, 1939), in which reference was made to the surprising amount of minute globular bodies that was observed when a sample of the salt, sodium carbonate, was diluted and filtered. It was thought that these globular bodies were algae that constituted the food of the ephydrid larvae.

Prof. G. J. Spencer was kind enough to study larvae that were forwarded to him, and to have a sample of the salt analyzed at the University of British Columbia. Recently he informed me that the numerous globular bodies found in the salt, formerly believed to be algae, were eggs of the brine shrimp (Phyllopoda) and that these constitute the food of the brine fly larvae.

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## A PRELIMINARY LIST OF THE SPECIES OF *CULICOIDES* IN WESTERN CANADA

(*Diptera: Ceratopogonidae*)

BY L. COLIN CURTIS,

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During the past season, the writer has been occupied with a study of the species of the genus *Culicoides* in British Columbia. Although "No-see-ums" or "Punkies" are a common pest in many parts of the province, the only previous record in the literature is that of *Culicoides obsoletus* Meigen, (*C. sanguisugus* Coquillet) taken at Kaslo, B.C. by H. G. Dyar in 1903.

Most of the specimens examined were already in the collection of the Dominion Animal Parasite Laboratory at Kamloops, B.C., while others were added by the writer from districts visited during the summer. The list includes records of specimens from Alberta and Saskatchewan, which were found amongst the material at the Kamloops Laboratory, and which are mentioned for the sake of completeness. It is as follows:-

*Culicoides biguttatus* Coquillet. Cascade, B.C.

*Culicoides cockerelli* Coquillet. Spuzzum, B.C.

*Culicoides crepuscularis* Malloch. Indian Head, Sask.; Kamloops, B.C.

*Culicoides gigas* Root & Hoffman. Kamloops, B.C.; Lac du Bois, north of Kamloops, B.C.

*Culicoides obsoletus* Meigen (*C. sanguisugus* Coquillet) Indian Head, Sask.; Lake Louise, and Banff, Alta.; Riske Creek, B.C., Chilcotin, B.C., Spuzzum, B.C., Shumway Lake, south of Kamloops, B.C.

*Culicoides unicolor* Coquillet. Indian Head, Sask.; Fairmont, B.C., Kamloops, B.C., Tranquille Lake, B.C.

*Culicoides variipennis* Coquillet. Vavenby, B.C.

*Culicoides yukonensis* Hoffman. Lac des Roches, North Thompson Valley, B.C.

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## REPORT ON THE VALUE OF PLANT INSPECTION IN RELATION TO PEST AND DISEASE CONTROL IN THE DOMINION OF CANADA\*

BY H. F. OLDS,

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As the history of the Plant Inspection Service in Canada is fairly well understood, it is probably sufficient to say that the regulations governing the activities of this service have been broadened from time to time, to meet new and existing conditions, so that today the Dominion Plant Protection Division under the Production Service is rendering a real service to the agricultural life of Canada.

The Inspection Service may be looked upon as the first line of defence against the invasion of foreign pests and diseases, and when we realize the crop losses, in their native lands, from pests and diseases which so far do not exist in Canada, although they are intercepted many times on foreign importations of plants and plant products, we have some reason to be thankful. But one might ask, "Will inspection alone give adequate protection?" Certainly not, particularly in the case of certain plant diseases which are not visible to the eye when the stock examined is in the dormant state. However, through the close co-operation between countries, and through personal contacts and exchange of literature, the pest and disease conditions of these various states and countries are fairly well known. This knowledge permits special precautionary regulations to be enacted, to ensure against the introduction of plants or plant products, known to be hosts of specific pests or diseases, which could not be intercepted by routine inspection.

### Exports:

One phase of our activities is becoming of first importance; namely, the examination of plants and plant products for export. Canada, as an agricultural country, may well look to her laurels when we consider that ap-

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