

THE TENT CATERPILLAR, ITS LIFE HISTORY
AND MEANS OF COMBATING THE PEST.

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Delivered to Point Grey Central Executive of
Ratepayers' Associations.

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- (1) Introduction of pest by railway.
- (2) Conditions at first unfavourable,
too many evergreen trees.
- (3) Vancouver near transition from evergreen
to deciduous forest.
- (4) When cleared, forest replaced by food
plants of tent caterpillar, alder, poplar,
willow, cherry, crab-apple, and hawthorn.

(5) LIFE HISTORY: - MALACOSOMA

-- pluvialis (~~no~~ tent)

Forest tent -- disstria (~~tent~~) *no tent*

American -- americana (~~forest~~ tent)

Moth :- description, male, female
July -- August.

Eggs:- M. disstria (all around)

M. pluvialis (half round)

Larva:- Hybernates, gregarous

Tent life, - or on branches

Wandering stage (no eyes)

Pupa:- on anything.

(6) NATURAL ENEMIES

EGG-STAGE:- Chickadees

Larva stage Bacterial disease
Ten or twelve species of
birds.
Parasitic flies three or
four species.

Pupa:- Parasitic flies may hatch.

Imago:- Bats.

(7) COMBATIVE METHODS.

(a) Encourage natural enemies of pest.

Birds:- Leave evergreen trees, dogwood
and maples to shelter birds.

Parasitic flies:- Box 1/4 - 3/8 gauze
Cocoon hunts. (manual training
classes)

(b) Destroy food plants in bush.

Artificial means.

(1) Remove eggbands, or prune?

(2) Coal oil torch on vacant lots.

(3) Pole with pins, in orchard in evenings

Arsen. lead 2-4 lbs
water 40 galls
Arsen. Copper 1/2 lb.
fresh lime 1 lb.
water 40 galls

(4) Spraying in orchards (fine film)

Relief temporary, effect of rain. (arsenate of lead or copper). New growth will need spraying.

Action on bacteria in soil

" " " root-hairs

" " " earthworms

" " " caterpillars.

(5) Objections to spraying

Temporary,

Parasites and birds are killed can only be done before or after flowering.

Water kills pollen and hinders formation of fruit.

Bees killed by taking poisoned nectar.

(6) Banding with viscid paper or dry cotton batting.

(8) MUNICIPAL ACTION permitted by sect.139 "Agricultural Act 1915".

(a) Council order owners' to clear infested property in say 3-5 days. Failing compliance, Council may clear and charge to party convicted.

(b) In case of owner not found J.P. may order clearance and charge cost and expenses as lien on prop. enforced by seizure and sale of enough to pay.

(c) Agent to be appointed to carry out the provisions of the Act. Reeve,

Chief of Police, or other official may be chosen and made responsible.

Section 152. He may call on Constables to assist.

(9) Act should be enforced.

- (a) Resident owners suffering at expense of non resident.
 - (b) Let non-resident owners share in making Pt. Grey the most desirable residential district.
 - (c) If too expensive for them to keep property clean let them sell out, or lease at nominal figure for horticultural purposes and help lower H.C.O.L.
 - (d) Pressure brought to bear on candidates for election for new Council, to have this pest controlled.
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