

Library

Canada  
PFRC  
Pest rept  
1985  
July  
[2]

Government of Canada  
Gouvernement du Canada  
Canadian Forestry Service  
Service canadien des forêts

# PEST REPORT

Pacific Forestry Centre • 506 West Burnside Rd. • Victoria, B.C. • V8Z 1M5

July 1985

LIBRARY  
PACIFIC FOREST RESEARCH CENTRE  
JUL 24 1985  
506 W. BURNSIDE RD.  
VICTORIA, B.C. V8Z 1M5  
CANADA

## LARCH SAWFLY DEFOLIATION OF WESTERN AND EXOTIC LARCH PLANTATIONS

N. Humphreys  
Forest Insect and Disease Survey

The larch sawfly, Pristophora erichsonii defoliated 10-75 mature and exotic larch on six 20-30 year old plantations in the UBC Research Forest near Haney. About 80% of the western larch were moderately or severely defoliated in the two largest plantations at the junction of E and K roads. Western larch in three plantations near Blaney Creek were lightly defoliated. Polish, L. decidua var polonica, Japanese, E. leptolepis and eastern larches, L. laricina in the arboretum were lightly defoliated. There were indications that sawfly populations were in the affected stands in 1984.

Larch sawfly has defoliated western larch within its natural range in southeastern British Columbia periodically since 1930. Tree mortality as a result of sawfly defoliation has not been reported in B.C. but increment loss and top-kill could occur when trees are severely defoliated.

Pupal samples will be made in September-October to determine the level of infestation expected in 1986. Natural control factors, including diseases, parasites and virus, have usually reduced populations in outbreaks in western larch after 2-3 years of defoliation.

\* \* \* \* \*