

Spruce budworm threatens timber in Blue Mountains

Scientists at Oregon State University say ants may hold some long-range hope for controlling the spruce budworm, a pest apparently threatening more than 250,000 acres of Douglas-fir and true fir stands in northeastern Oregon's Blue Mountains.

Two types of ants - carpenter and thatching ants - are major predators of the budworms, which periodically

cause problems in Eastern Oregon, according to Bob Campbell, U.S. Forest Service entomologist stationed at OSU.

Campbell, Forest Service entomologist Torolf Torgersen and Lorna Youngs, a doctoral student in OSU's entomology department, are studying the ants to learn more about their life cycles and to see if forests

could be managed to increase their numbers and help control budworms.

"One thing we might offer in the short run," said Campbell, "is advice that could help foresters tailor pesticide spraying to avoid killing predator ants."

Campbell, who is supervising Youngs' field work in the Blue Mountains, where a recent aerial survey showed heavy budworm infestation, said birds are another major predator to spruce budworms.

He and Torgersen also are studying the population dynamics of spruce budworms in Oregon, Washington and Idaho.

In a related project at OSU, entomology doctoral student Tom Egan and U.S. Forest Service entomologist Roy Beckwith are studying life cycles of spruce budworms to learn more about when they die and what kills them.

"Some eventual applications might be predicting what budworm population will be from year to year and possibly identifying factors that can be used to manipulate the populations to reduce forest damage," Egan said.

The studies are focused on national forest land in north-central Washington near Okanogan.

Egan said the spruce budworm moth lays eggs on foliage of fir trees in July that hatch into caterpillars about two weeks later. The caterpillars spend the winter in cocoonlike shelters, then come out in the spring to feed on new foliage. In early summer, the caterpillars go through a pupal stage and become moths.

The caterpillars can grow to one-half to three-fourths of an inch and adult moths can grow an inch long.

Besides the Blue Mountains, the Oregon Department of Forestry has reported small areas near John Day and Prairie City are infested with spruce budworms.

The agency said evaluations will be conducted this fall and next spring to determine budworm population, timber losses and environmental impact and a course of action will be determined next spring.

Several chemicals can be applied aerially to control the insect. A control program, if needed, could cost about \$10 to \$15 an acre, State Forester Mike Miller said.

Spruce budworm outbreaks have been reported in several western states, including 1.2 million acres hit in Colorado. Miller said foresters don't know the cause of the outbreak in Oregon.

The last major outbreak in the state was in 1949-53 when 4.4 million acres were treated. About 35,000 acres on the Warm Springs Indian Reservation in northcentral Oregon were treated for spruce budworms in 1979.

PUBLIC MEETINGS

The Morrow County Historical Society will meet Sunday, Oct. 11, at the Lexington Grange Hall at 1 p.m. for a potluck dinner. A program on Harney County will begin at 2 p.m.

Oregon ports observe national port week

In the midst of statewide economic difficulties, Oregon public ports are developing new jobs and creating new business in communities along the Oregon coast and up the Columbia River system, said a spokesperson from the Oregon Public Ports Association.

Oct. 4 - 11 Oregon's 23 ports are observing National Port Week, pausing to tally achievements in economic development during the past year. From aggressive pursuit of new coal port facilities, through plans for expanded recreation and tourism attractions, to development of port industrial property as the home of new business in Oregon, the state's ports can point to solid achievement in

the past year.

The Port of Morrow, Cascade Locks and Coos Bay have completed plans for new industrial parks in their districts. Some 300 acres of raw land would be brought into industrial use.

In Oregon, ports operate both as a public agency and as a business. As local governments, port districts may levy taxes, borrow money, issue bonds and charge for services. Acting as a private business, a port may negotiate economic development projects, and lease land, buildings or equipment. Using their authority, ports have assisted with providing nearly \$82 million in financial assistance to businesses for modernization, ex-

pansion, relocation and new construction during the last 12 months.

Ports assist economic development in the state in other ways. Oregon ports develop industrial sites to be leased or sold, provide ancillary services such as utilities, sewers and transportation access, as well as technical assistance to business within a port district.

Over the past year, port districts throughout the state have continued to use their authority to assist their districts through hard times.

Projects and programs of the Port of Morrow from October 1980 through Oct. 1981 according to the Oregon Public Ports Association are: issued over \$32 million in industrial revenue bonds to three companies for pollution

control equipment at the Boardman coal-fired plant. The plant is a major area employer;

master development plan for West Beach industrial area completed, and in process of formulating a plan for the East Beach area; and leased 40-acre parcel for a wood chip transshipment facility and construction of a wood chipping plant to employ 25.

Lexington news

Delpha Jones • 989-8189

Lexington Grange met on Monday evening for their regular meeting with the Master, Delpha Jones presiding.

The evening started with a potluck supper, followed by the business of the evening. Club minutes were read and accepted. These included card parties for the fall and winter months. Plans were also discussed for Paomona Grange which will meet at the hall on Saturday, October 24. The meeting will feature the election of officers, so all granges are urged to have representatives present. These officers will serve two year periods.

The group discussed having the Blue Mountain Fiddlers as a program for the winter and it has been learned that they will be present the latter part of November. There will be a supper and entertainment at this time, open to the public. The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Mr. and Mrs. Bill Padberg spent the weekend in Portland visiting relatives and friends and in Battle Ground, Washington.

Roberta Jones is leaving this week to join her husband in Olympia, Wash. where he is now employed. Mr. and Mrs. Durfee have purchased the Jones house in Main St. in Lexington.

Mrs. Charles Buchanan spent several days this week in Portland and Hillsboro visiting and attended the funeral services of a cousin in Tacoma. Mrs. Buchanan's mother accompanied her to the services.

Holly Rebekah Lodge met on Thursday evening for their regular meeting with the NG Joyce Buchanan in the chair. The group was pleased to see that the painting job on the inside of the lower hall had been completed. Virginia Peck thanked all those who worked on and attended her reception.

A card party scheduled for Saturday evening, October 10, was announced. These parties will be held the first Saturday night of each month but will

not be conducted as a series. The parties begin at 8 p.m. and admission will be \$1.50. Prizes and refreshments will be provided. Nomination of officers was held, and refreshments were served.

Mr. and Mrs. C.C. Jones, and Earl Miller were among those visiting at the Wayne Miller home in Hermiston last week to visit with the Miller men's mother and father and Mr. Jones' sister and husband. Mr. and Mrs. W.I. Miller from Seaview, Wash., and Dorothy Smith from Portland. They all visited John Spence and Florence McMillan at the nursing home there.

Plans are underway for the annual meeting of the Morrow County Historical Society at the Lexington Grange Hall on Sunday of this week. A potluck dinner is planned and the program will include a talk and slides on the history of Malheur County.

There will also be door prizes, other entertainment and an election of members to the board of directors. All are most cordially invited to come and share the day with the society.

Mr. and Mrs. Ken Palmer were Pendleton callers one day last week where he consulted a physician.

Mr. and Mrs. George Kreuger and Lee Wagonblast were Bend and Camp Sherman visitors last week.

Lee Wagonblast was a visitor in Odessa, Wash., at the home of her son and family. Mr. and Mrs. John Wagonblast. They helped their grandson, Seth, celebrate his fifth birthday.

Ruby Colley returned home on Monday from Colfax, Wash. with her son who has been recuperating from a stroke. She reports that he is improving.

The Lexington Chevron station is now under the management of Darryl Bigelow, of Heppner. He has leased the station and will be open from 6 a.m. to 7 p.m., Monday through Saturday. Mr. and Mrs. Morris will be leaving soon to take care of business elsewhere and later a trip to Alaska.

Sifting Through the Times

By JUSTINE WEATHERFORD

FIFTY YEARS AGO

Dr. Arnold Bennett Hall, president of the University of Oregon, will address a group of Oregon dads, mothers and alumni next Monday evening at the Episcopal parish house. He will be accompanied by Burt Brown Barker, vice-president and by Mrs. F.W. Bond of Pendleton, president of the Oregon Mothers Association.

While there has never been offered a satisfactory substitute for the American system of "private property" there are evils in the system that should be eradicated, Frederick Steiwer, junior United States Senator from Oregon, told the Pomona Grange assemblage in the American Legion Hall at lone.

The executive committee of Associated Charities announces that it has made arrangements with B.R. Patterson, manager of Patterson & Son drug store, to store food and clothing to be used this winter. A special request is made for children's under-clothing and canned fruit, and anyone having donations to make may leave them at that store.

TWENTY-FIVE YEARS AGO

Congressman Sam Coon has recommended that a site near Boardman in Morrow County be chosen for a proposed Naval Ordnance Depot.

The city council Monday night accepted the bid of John Layson, Jr., Seattle, and Harley Young, Heppner, for the installation of remote control equipment which will allow the operating controls for the upper city wells on Willow Creek to be placed at the lower well near town. The bid was \$2,836.25.

A total of 486 acres of strip cropping was laid out on the Burton Peck and Walter Ruggles ranches, Lexington, in September according to the monthly progress report submitted at a meeting of the Heppner Soil Conservation District.

Dr. A.D. McMurdo, Dr. Wallace Wolf and Dr. Clifford Wagner attended the first medical meeting of the season in Pendleton last week.

FIVE YEARS AGO

The City of Heppner and the County of Morrow are between a rock and a hard place. It is obvious that a two-man sheriff's department can't adequately cover all of the county Acting Sheriff Larry Fetsch works days and Kip Morris, the lone deputy, works nights in North Morrow.

"If both men work 60 hours a week, it's falling short of full-time police coverage" Dennis Doherty, Morrow County district attorney said.

Linda Johnson, Anne Doherty and Monica Swanson appeared Monday night before the Heppner City Council seeking some financial relief for a perplexed child care budget. Tear-filled eyes lit up a bit when officials of the Heppner Child Development Center learned that Kinzua Corp. would put up \$600 and Murray's Drug \$200 to help the center find \$1,200 by Oct. 29 to keep its doors open.

While most Heppner water users have been slapped with another rate increase, the second since July, some consolation may come in knowing that the city's fire insurance ratings have been bettered.

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2 DRAWER CHEST



\$26
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list 170

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list 195

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list 20

\$142
list 190

Morrow County Grain Growers, Inc.
Lexington 989-8221

To our valued customers

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Of the 116 items in today's circular, the following 6 items did not arrive:

| | |
|--------------------------------------|---------|
| Rainbow Latch Hook Kits | Page 4 |
| Crystal Fire King 9" Pie Plate | Page 6 |
| Crystal Fire King 1 1/2 pt. Baker | Page 6 |
| Crystal Fire King 2 qt. Utility Dish | Page 6 |
| Jute Twine | Page 11 |
| Conoco Plastic Planters 7" & 9" | Page 11 |

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