

Fight Against Forest Insects Never Ends

12 MAIL TRIBUNE, Medford, Or. Sunday, Nov. 29, 1959



Beetle Attacking Douglas-Fir Most Prevalent in Area

Passing a grove of dead trees along a forest highway is a depressing sight. The trees, once sturdy and green, are stark and a symbol of serious concern to foresters.

Dead trees, some might argue, have an aesthetic value in their own naked way. But seldom does any aesthetic value outweigh the seriousness of the cause.

This is particularly true if the trees were killed by the Douglas-fir beetle. The insect, a rather stout, cylindrical beetle a little smaller in diameter than a wooden match, is the most destructive insect enemy of southwestern Oregon's important timber tree.

Other insects It is not, however, the only insect about which foresters in this area are concerned. There are others such as the western pine and mountain pine beetles.

But there is no insect which is more prevalent or which has caused as much damage in southwestern Oregon forests than the Douglas-fir beetle.

Oftentimes an infestation may go unnoticed until Douglas-fir foliage becomes discolored. Then the tree is dead, and the insects spread to surrounding healthy trees.

Red Boring Dust The first sign that a Douglas-fir is being attacked is the red boring dust in bark crevices or on the ground around the tree. But this method of detection does not always work, since boring dust may be washed or blown away.

About the surest way of early detection is individual tree examination. This is done by removing a piece of bark of a tree suspected of being infested. If the Douglas-fir beetle is present, there is a distinct pattern of numerous small tunnels between the bark and the wood. These tunnels are made by newly hatched larvae which mine out at right angles from an unbranched tunnel in which the female beetle lays the eggs.

The tree's death results from the girdling effects of the egg galleries and larval feeding tunnels, and actual death is usually hastened by action of various fungi which are introduced into the trees by attacking beetles clogging the sap-conducting systems.

Prefers Weakened Tree Although the Douglas-fir beetle kills apparently healthy trees, foresters have found that the insect prefers to attack windfalls, fire-scorched trees, logging slash and trees weakened by defoliation.

Where such breeding places are abundant, the beetle population often builds up rapidly and spreads to adjacent green timber.

More than 166,000 acres of trees were infected with Douglas-fir beetle in Rogue River National forest and adjacent forest lands last year, according to a report by W. J. Buckhorn and P. W. Orr of the Pacific Northwest forest and range experiment station, of the forest service, Portland.

Light Infestation Most of the acreage, however, was considered of light infestation, while 4,480 acres was determined to have a very heavy infestation. In Siskiyou National forest last year, an estimated 221,120 acres had some degree of infestation of Douglas-fir beetle. The number of Douglas-fir beetle infestations declines to the east of Medford and north and east of Eugene.

Controlling the Douglas-fir beetle is a never ending job. The recommended control method in this area is salvage before a new brood of beetles emerges.

The most effective preventive control method to minimize damage by the Douglas-fir beetle is through prompt salvage and cleanup of wind-thrown trees, trees scorched or killed by fire, and logging slash. The salvage will utilize commercially valuable trees which otherwise might be wasted, and it will remove material favorable to breeding beetles.

Two other insects, the western pine and mountain pine beetles, are causing some concern in southern Oregon forests, but infestations are constantly watched and control methods immediately placed into effect.

Not Considered Bad The western pine beetle infestations in this area are not now considered bad. Losses by the western pine beetle most often occurs in mature and overmature ponderosa pine, and trees killed by the



TREES KILLED - Above are Douglas-firs killed by the Douglas-fir beetle, the most prevalent insect in southwestern Oregon forests. The light areas on the hillside are patches of dead trees. Foliage on the trees is discolored, indicating the beetles have probably moved to surrounding healthy trees. - (U.S. Forest Service Photo)



BEETLE-RAVAGED - These ghostly snags are mute evidence of an invasion of the western pine beetle. More than 150 years of insect deterioration rapidly and soon become useless as lumber.

Infestations of the western pine beetle are recognized in much the same manner as areas attacked by Douglas-fir beetles - through discoloration and the pattern created by the beetles in the cambium layer.

It has been estimated that about 6,000 beetles are required to kill an average-sized ponderosa pine, and that enough new beetles are ordinarily produced in a single infested tree to kill five other trees the same size.

The major infestation of the mountain pine beetle in this area is in the Buck lake area southeast of Mt. McLoughlin in a stand of lodgepole pine. The beetle is not limited to lodgepole pine. It kills many types of western pines, including sugar, ponderosa, western white and whitebark pines.

Overmature Trees The beetle, like others, breeds on overmature or weakened trees, windfalls and cut logs from thick-barked trees. Salvage again becomes an important means of control of the mountain pine beetle.

During the past dry summer, increased infestations of both the western pine beetle and mountain pine beetle were noted in the Applegate area, according to Dale Prentice, secretary-manager of the Southern Oregon Conservation and Tree Farm association.

Methods to control the infestations have been undertaken, and the beetles are not expected to become a serious problem in that area.

Role of Oregon Counties Told By Senate Committee Staff Man

Portland - The role of the Association of Oregon Counties should be for all counties in the association to act together to analyze what needs to be done for proper development of federal lands, Robert E. Wolf, staff member of the Senate Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs, told association delegates at the recent NOC meeting in Portland.

"It is a job that can best be done as an association because various federal administrative boundaries overlap and rarely conform to county lines," Wolf explained.

Some of the things which should be studied are: What is a reasonable investment level on federal lands? What is the potential for such uses as timber production, grazing, recreation and water?

Assured Economic Base "Federal lands used for continuous production offer an assured economic base for the local economy if properly managed," Wolf added.

Counties can play a role in federal land management when bound together in an association to present the local case, the staff member said. The counties are also backed by elected representatives in Congress.

"Forty per cent of the payments made by the national forest system and the bureau of land management go to local government in Oregon," Wolf emphasized. "This one fact alone shows the need for county interest in the condition of federal lands."

Resist Tax Increases Since private timber land owners pay taxes regardless of whether their lands are producing they naturally resist tax increases when their counties receive increased revenues from federal lands the more they are used and the more revenue come in.

The western oriented committee on interior and insular affairs has demanded and gotten long-term programs for federal land development now from such agencies as BLM. Now Congress can compare national development programs with annual budgets, progress and overall needs. However, information for these long-range national programs must come from the local level. This is where the counties come in, Wolf explained.

Expenditures Urged For example, in its long-range program, the Forest Service says it should invest a little over a quarter of a billion dollars in Oregon over the next 12 years," Wolf illustrated. "Additionally, it should spend about \$150 million. This makes a total of \$400 million. Potential revenue during this period, at current levels, is \$600 million. So such an expenditure is justified."

Federal expenditures of \$162 million are desired in Oregon for road construction. However, the Forest Service estimates timber prices can be pegged low enough so permit timber buyers can afford to construct \$233 million worth of roads, Wolf noted.

Should Study Bill If this much money is used by timber purchasers to build roads it also means that much less is in the base amount upon which payments in lieu of taxes are computed. Over 40 per cent of the timber purchaser work will be concentrated in Oregon, Wolf said.

However, in almost every other state more timber access roads will be built from appropriated funds than will be secured by reducing receipts and payments to counties. So, counties should look over the current access road bill sponsored by western senators.

Second largest investment planned annually by the Forest Service in the U.S. and in Oregon is for reforestation and stand improvement. A total of \$375 million will be expended nationally and \$40 million of this in Oregon.

"We in America face a tremendous increase in our population," the senate committee staff man noted. "This will mean an increase in demand for forest products. The federal lands of Oregon alone are sufficient to provide the wood supply for a vigorous forest economy."

"There is little doubt that if Oregon is going to sustain its

current 9 billion board feet level of forest products production substantial forestry efforts will have to be made on public and private lands," Wolf said. "This industry employs over 70,000 people."

Other Key Uses Recreational use and watershed development are other key uses of federal forest lands, Wolf stated. The findings of the National Outdoors Recreation Resources Review commission should be a blueprint for recreational planning.

"Long-term industrial development of Oregon rests on water. If you are going to diversify your industrial base and expand it, pure water is a must," Wolf noted. "Congress is moving to develop facts with its committee on water resources. By keeping in close touch with developments, your association can help chart the course for state action and success."

Cards, Pins Are Presented to 4-H Members in Talent

Harrison Meyer, representative of the First National Bank of Oregon, Medford branch, presented cards and pins at the Talent 4-H achievement night recently to those members completing another year of 4-H work.

Carolyn Ties received the international award for leadership, given by Edward Foss Wilson, assistant secretary of health, education and welfare.

Gerald Reneau received the boy's agriculture award, given by International Harvester company.

Members receiving cards and pins were:

Ninth year: Carolyn Ties. Eighth year: Lucile Lowery. Seventh year: Dean Sommer. Sixth year: Starlene Wilkins, Gerald Reneau.

Fifth Year Pins Fifth year: Daryl Zapell, Linda Sommer, Constance Patterson, Susan Howell. Fourth year: Kathy Zapell, Susan Thompson, Bernard Reneau, Paulette Creel.

Third year: Betty Howell, Greg Goodrich, Joyce Critten, Gary Cook, Judy Bagley. Second year: Sherry Wilkins, Gail Scharfe, Cassie Cutburth, Nancy Day, Carrie Cutburth, Douglas Cook.

First year: Jackie Wong, Terry Lee Welburn, Vicki Taylor, Cheryl Taylor, Ronald Reneau, Linda Mullin, Lynn Morrison, Linda Sue McCordell, Alice Lockwood, Nanette Johnson, Sam Jones, Robyn Goodrich, Linnea Ford, Catherine Fisher, Linda Clark, Carol Clark, Sharon Bergren, Elizabeth Beebe, Billy Bagley.

Workshop Planned At Phoenix High

Phoenix - The second annual cheerleader workshop will be held Saturday, Dec. 5, at Phoenix High school. All cheerleaders and advisors are invited.

This year, the program is planned with an all day session consisting of speakers, buzz sessions, exchanging of yells, entertainment, and a special luncheon served by the Phoenix Pep club.

Cheerleaders from all the schools in this area are expected to participate. The purpose of the Cheerleader Workshop is to promote better cheerleading, better yells and exchange ideas. In order to attend the workshop, participants will need a registration card, club officers said. Cards may be obtained from cheerleader advisors.

The first cheerleader workshop was held at Rogue River High a year ago. This conference was planned by Student Chairman Rochelle Eranosian and was considered successful, according to Mrs. Helen Thomas, cheerleader adviser at Phoenix.

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McLEOD Officers Honored

By CAROLINE L. HARDING
McLeod-State and local officers of the Lions Auxiliary were guests of honor at a joint dinner in Shady Cove Nov. 11.

Officers honored included Mrs. Lucile Shelton, state president; Mrs. Frank Christian of Talent, vice president; Mrs. Dan Dwyer of Medford, district director; Mrs. Ethel Goode, president, Shady Cove; Mrs. Doris Van Etten, president, Eagle Point; Mrs. Elizabeth Stratton, president, Butte Falls and Mrs. Caroline Harding, president, Prospect.

Following the dinner, Mrs.

Rose Kelley, Shady Cove, entertained with pictures taken during her recent trip to Cuba and Death Valley.

Former McLeod resident Mrs. Lavina Sublett, who now lives at Applegate, Calif., called on friends here recently.

Mrs. Wyles Berry has returned home after a trip to Salem on motel business.

Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hume and their two daughters had Thanksgiving dinner in Roseburg at the home of Mrs. Hume's sister, Mrs. Arthur Kobernik.

The HEC of the Upper Rogue Grange held a luncheon meeting Nov. 12 at the home of Mrs. Harold Barber. Officers elected for the coming year were Mrs. George Grieve, chairman; Hazel Ulrich, co-chairman; Mrs. May Eastman, treasurer, and Mrs. May Richardson, secretary.

The Christmas party will be held at noon Dec. 10 at Eastin's Rogue Haven. Gifts will be exchanged.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Vaughn had Thanksgiving dinner in La Grand with their son and his family, Mr. and Mrs. Wendie Vaughn. Previously the Vaughns had visited his brother in Roseburg and a sister, Mrs. Violet Ditsworth, in Portland.

4-H Club News

Talent Chicks 4-H Poultry Club

The first meeting of the Talent Chicks 4-H Poultry Club was held at the home of the leader, Caroline Ties, Nov. 14. The following officers were elected: Billy Bagley, president; Paulette Creel, secretary; and Linda Mullin, reporter.

A program was planned for the following year's activities. There is going to be a test on the parts of a chicken at the next meeting, which will be Dec. 5 at 2 p.m. at Miss Ties' home. Any boy or girl wishing to join this club will be welcome, within the age limits of 9 to 18.

Linda Mullin, Reporter

PREFER TO INVEST

New York - UPI - U. S. Corporations spent \$1,800,000,000 expanding their overseas branches and subsidiaries last year but invested \$2,200,000,000 in firms under foreign ownership and operation, according to the U. S. Commerce Department. The overseas expansion figure was off 12 per cent from 1957 while the investment in foreign firms figure was up 290 per cent.

Young Peoples groups from Trail and Central Point held a masquerade party Nov. 7. Thirty members attended.

Ashland Chamber Leases Gun Range

Ashland - The Ashland Chamber of Commerce Tuesday approved a lease which will enable the Ashland Gun club to operate the old Valleyview rifle range for the next five years.

The chamber has owned the property for several years but the title was cleared only recently.

The gun club will pay a token rent of \$1 a year and will control the range until Oct. 31, 1964.

Springfield Youth Killed by Truck

Goshen - UPI - A 15-year-old Springfield youth, Alvin Bryan Steinbock, was killed Friday afternoon when he was struck by a pickup truck on Highway 58 near the Coast Fork bridge, according to state police.

Officers said the youth was playing with friends when he suddenly dashed onto the highway and was struck by a truck driven by Lee Roy Stallings, 45, Eugene. Stallings was not cited.

There are other insects, along with diseases, which foresters are constantly watching in both private and public forests. The concern of one is the concern of the other, and to assure a future tree crop, as on any farm, methods of controlling insects play a major role in producing the crop.

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