STATE OF CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE
IN COOPERATION WITH THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

COOPERATIVE PLANT PEST REPORT FOR CALIFORNIA

Vol. 3, No. 8
Week Ending February 22, 1980

Charles S. Papp, Entomologist
Division of Plant Industry (916) 445-4521

OTHER TROPICAL AND SUBTROPICAL FRUITS

A SLUG - Agriolimax reticulatus - Located in a nursery in the Central Coast District, in Contra Costa County, in Richmond by G. R. Cruickshank on February 19, on Ficus benjamina, shipped from Florida (det. by T. Kono, CDFA).

ORNAMENTALS

A GELECHIID MOTH - Stenolechia bathrodyas - NEW WESTERN HEMISPHERE RECORD - Southern Coastal District, Los Angeles County, Pacific Pallisades, collected on Juniperus tamisifolia, July 31, 1969 by F. Cunningham and J. Heuer, of the Los Angeles Agricultural Commissioner's Office. This minute moth recently identified, feeding on various hybrids of junipers and cypress. See special report at the end of this issue (det. by T. Eichlin, CDFA).

A SNAIL - Bradybaena similaris - Found in a nursery in the Central Coast District, Contra Costa County, in Richmond by H. Sparkman on February 19, in a shipment of Dracaena warneckii from Florida (det. by T. Kono, CDFA).

WOOLLY APPLE APHID - Eriosoma lanigerum - Found in the San Joaquin Valley District, Tulare County, Porterville on February 13, by J. Gilley and J. Gobin on Pyracantha. An average of 20 adults per stem were reported (det. by T. Kono, CDFA).

FOREST AND SHADE TREES

GYPSY MOTH - Lymantria dispar - Reported from the Central Coast District, Santa Clara County, Santa Clara, found on February 19 by S. Gilmour in a shipment of furniture from Connecticut. Eggs, larva and pupa located in the shipment; eggs found apparently viable, turgid, embryonated (det. conf. T. Eichlin, CDFA).

SIGNIFICANT FINDS FOR THE WEEK ENDING February 22, 1980

Scientific Name	Common Name &	Rating	Origin	Locality	Collector	Date
Ceroplastes floridensis	Florida wax scale	Q	Florida	North Hollywood, Los Angeles Co.	B. Kemper	II. 3.
Dysmicoccus alazon	A mealybug	Q	Florida	Hacienda Heights, Los Angeles	R. Orsburn	II.13.
Curculionidae sp.	A weevil (larva)	Q	Georgia	La Puente, Los Angeles Co.	R. Orsburn	II.5.
Elateridae sp.	Wireworm	Q	Georgia	La Puente, Los Angeles Co.	R. Orsburn	II.5.
Lymantria dispar	Gypsy moth	A	Connecticut	San Marcos, San Diego Co.	S. Desserich	II.7.
			Connecticut	Santa Clara, Santa Clara Co.	S. Gilmour	II.19.

CALIFORNIA BLACK LIGHT TRAP REPORT

For the week ending February 22, 1980

DATE	2-18				2-18
LOCATION	Bellota				Manteca
TEMPERATURE	0.2"rain				0.1"rain 70-57
ALFALFA LOOPER *Autographa californica*	1				
ARMYWORM *Pseudaletia unipuncta*					
BEET ARMYWORM *Spodoptera exigua*					
BLACK CUTWORM *Argrotis ipsilon*					
CABBAGE LOOPER *Trichoplusia ni*					
CLOVER CUTWORM *Scotogramma trifolii*					
CODLING MOTH *Laspeyresia pomonella*					
CORN EARWORM, (ETC.) *Heliothis zea*					
FALSE CELERY LEAFTIER *Udea profundalis*					
GRANULATE CUTWORM *Feltia subterranea*					1
SALTMARSH CATERPILLAR *Estigmene acrea*					
SPOTTED CUTWORM *Amathes c-nigrum*					
SUGARBEET WEBWORM *Loxostege sticticalis*					
TOBACCO BUDWORM *Heliothis virescens*					
W. YELLOWSTRIPED ARMYWORM *Spodoptera praefica*	10				5
Variegated Cutworm *Peridroma saucia*	6				
A Green Fruitworm *Orthosia hibisci*	9				
A Noctuid Moth *Xylomyges hiemalis*	2				
A Noctuid Moth *Xylomyges rubrica*	2				
Winter Cranefly *Trichocera annulipes*	11				3

61-033 (Est. 5-77)

ORIENTAL CONIFER PEST BECOMES
ESTABLISHED IN COASTAL CALIFORNIA
(Lepidoptera: Gelechiidae)

Species of the genus Stenolechia Meyrick are known from eastern and southeastern Asia. S. bathrodyas Meyrick was described from Tokyo, Japan. This report on an established population of this species on the southern coastal region of California marks the first recording of both the genus Stenolechia and the species bathrodyas in the Western Hemisphere. Although specimens had been collected from various localities in California since 1969, the gelechiid's correct identity remained unknown until now. A manuscript has been submitted to The Pan-Pacific Entomologist further documenting and detailing the population.

Stenolechia bathrodyas

According to K. Sims, San Diego County Department of Agriculture and V. Lazareo, County Farm Advisor, both of whom are responsible for most of the detection work, S. bathrodyas has become the major pest of various species and hybrids of junipers and cypress from Ventura to San Diego, and is currently confined to ornamental plantings located within 10 miles of the coast. The species is apparently trivoltine, with adults present in April, June, and August into September. The larvae feed on the leaves, cutting completely through them, causing the leaves to die. When heavily infested the effect of this type of feeding causes whole branches or sections of the host tree to become brown, resembling some tree disease symptoms. Browning and leaf dropping are most severe following the hotter, drier periods of summer when the trees are under additional stress. Pupation occurs on the host in thin cocoons covered with bits of wood, leaves and frass and is often concealed under an old leaf.

The moth is small (forewing length 2.8-3.0 mm); the wings are basically pale yellow-brown, with various irregular dark spots, surrounded by pale whitish areas. The mature larva is about 5.5 to 6.0 mm long green with brownish-yellow head and dark, contrasting prothoracic shield, anal shield, and somewhat strap-like, transverse sclerite dorsally on the ninth abdominal segment; anal fork atypical of gelechiids, appearing more like anal comb of many tortricoid species.

Unchecked, S. bathrodyas must be considered a potentially destructive pest to our native species, including Monterey cypress, which is found just to the north of the presently known infestation.

Thomas D. Eichlin
Systematic Entomologist
Insect Taxonomy Laboratory - CDFA