

The Larch Saw Fly or Larch Worm (*Nematus erichsonii*). Several outbreaks are reported from various parts of Canada, during recent years it has been found in localities throughout the Central West.

On account of its destructive habits, the life history of this insect has been very carefully studied. It is found that the adult flies lay their eggs in slits which are made on the terminal shoots, which subsequently die. The young green larvae which hatch out begin feeding on the fresh green leaves, and as they grow older they feed in clusters, stripping the whole tree of its foliage, which eventually causes the death of the trees. The larvae, which are of a greyish green color, are full grown in a few weeks. When full grown they descend the trunks of the trees and pupate in the loose turf at the base of the tree, the adult flies emerging from them the following June. These insects are held in check by insect eating birds and by natural parasites. On account of the habits of the tree, artificial remedies are difficult to apply, but the arsenical sprays can be used to good effect on windbreaks or on lawns.

Spruce Saw Fly.

The Spruce Saw Fly (*Lophyrus albertis*) which feeds on the buds and needles of the white spruce, is also quite injurious, but like the Larch Fly, can be effectively controlled with the arsenical sprays.

INSECT CONTROL.

In all probability the matter of greatest interest to the grower of plants and trees is the question of insect control. Frequently the measures employed have to be applied quickly to be effective, as the injury will be done in a comparatively short time. The natural agencies which are at work in holding insects in check, such as birds, predators and parasitic insects and



These eat Plant Lice

The lady beetles are active in destroying Plant Lice

fungus disease are probably the most effective methods of insect control, and the object of the farmer should be to foster and protect in every possible way these protective agencies. Often cultural agencies, such as crop rotation, clean farming, growing of resistant varieties or the destruction of the crop at a critical time in the life of the insect, may be the most effective means of destroying insects or holding them in control. Where these are ineffective the grower may resort to the use of protective washes or sprays.

Solutions used for the destruction of insects are called insecticides and are classified according to their action upon the bodies of insects. Some exert a poisonous action on the insect's body by being absorbed on the food plants to which material has been applied and hence these are called food poisons. Others kill by coming in