

OTTAWA, March 1, 1916.

To the Honourable
The Minister of Agriculture,
Ottawa.

SIR,—I have the honour to submit for your approval, Entomological Bulletin No. 13, entitled "The Army Cutworm," which has been written by Mr. E. H. Strickland, Field Officer in charge of the Entomological Laboratory at Lethbridge, Alta.

The Army Cutworm, which should be distinguished from the true Army Worm, is new to Canada as a field pest, although we have previous records of minor injuries by this species. In 1915 an extensive outbreak, covering a territory of about 3,000 square miles, occurred in Alberta. Fortunately, the presence of Mr. Strickland in that region enabled us to undertake an immediate investigation of this insect, and to advise the farmers in regard to the methods of control. Mr. Strickland's knowledge of the cutworms and their habits and of local conditions enabled him to discover a method of controlling this species that could be used under prairie conditions at a cost that was not prohibitive. Further, he demonstrated this method of control to the farmers in the infested district with satisfactory results, and his efforts were undoubtedly the means of preventing serious losses to the grain crop in that region. The results of this investigation are recorded in this bulletin; they will, in this manner, be available should another outbreak of this insect occur at any time.

The warning cannot be given too often that farmers should watch their grain crops carefully for the first signs of insect injury, so that the necessary control measures may be taken before the magnitude of the infestation renders their application a matter of extreme difficulty and the chances of saving the crop very slight.

I have the honour to be, sir,

Your obedient servant,

C. GORDON HEWITT,
Dominion Entomologist.