

If correct in the opinion that the greater part of this injury where I have observed it is due to these insects, the matter of applications for their destruction becomes much easier, as we then have to deal with insects exposed to destructive liquids, or to destruction with "hopper dozers" and similar contrivances.

My argument in brief is this: "Silver-top" may be produced by a number of different insects—a point already made by Mr. Fletcher. It may result from the action of insects within the sheath, or from puncturing and sucking of sap by insects that operate from the outside. In my own observations but a very small percentage of affected stems have contained insects of any kind within the sheath, and many show clearly evidence of puncture from without.

The species most abundant in the affected fields, and known to puncture grasses, are mainly *Jassidae*. These insects are sufficiently abundant, and their habits entirely in accord with the injuries noted. No other insects of sufficient abundance, and with habits to make it probable that they could cause the injury, have been found in the silver-topped grass.

I conclude, then, from all the observations made so far, that for the locality studied, Homoptera (mainly *Jassidae*) are the principal causes of the disease. The insects are open to general attack, and Silver-top should be prevented by their destruction.

[The attention of Canadian observers is invited to this important subject. The appearance known as "Silver-top" has increased enormously in some districts during the last few years. In many cases examined the cause could not be ascertained.—ED. C. E.]

SOME RARE LEPIDOPTERA TAKEN NEAR MONTREAL.

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Thecla laeta, Edw. I was fortunate enough to take a female of this rare and beautiful butterfly on the top of Beloeil Mt., 22 miles east of Montreal, on May 24th, 1888. I again visited the place on the same date in 1889 and 1890, but on both occasions the weather was too cloudy for anything to be on the wing.

Thecla acadica, Edw. I took two specimens at St. Rose, July 7th, 1889, flying over a field of oats, among which there was a quantity of wild mustard in flower, and the butterflies visited the latter occasionally, but only for a moment, and then dashed off.