

surface shining, sparsely punctured; antennæ about 35-jointed, 3 subequal to 4 + 5; head shining, polished, with shallow, widely-separate punctures; a large impunctate spot on the lower inner orbits; middle fovea deep, spear-shape, with the long point above; lateral postocellar furrows distinct, converging to the occiput, postocellar area parted by a longitudinal furrow; anterior lobe of mesonotum and scutel impunctate; prothorax, lateral lobes of mesonotum and pleuræ punctured like vertex; laterally the pronotum has a large hump; legs normal; venation as in *I. Kincaidi* Roh.; abdomen finely reticulate; last ventral segment of the abdomen almost as long as wide, the apex gently rounded. Colour reddish-brown; clypeus, labrum, mandibles, smooth inner orbital area, posterior orbits, four longitudinal lines on vertex, anterior lobe of mesonotum, scutel, part of lateral lobes, pleuræ and abdomen straw-yellow; antennæ and legs darker than body, partly brown. Wings hyaline, venation brown.

Type locality: Minn. Collection of W. H. Ashmead.

Type, No. 12763, U. S. N. M.

This species is allied to *I. brunnicans* (Nort.), but the scape is shorter, the last ventral segment is nearly as long as wide (not half as long as wide as in *brunnicans* Nort.), the labrum has a long spear-shaped tooth (not broad with the anterior margin triangular, as in *brunnicans*), and the colour is lighter. It is not marked with black, as is *I. ochrocera* (Nort.).

THE LARCH SAW-FLY (*LYGÆONEMATUS ERICHSONII*, HARTZ.) IN MINNESOTA.

BY A. G. RUGGLES, ST. ANTHONY PARK, MINN.

The Larch Saw-fly has become a very serious pest on the tamaracks in northern Minnesota. Reports of damage from several parts of the State came to the Minnesota Entomologist's office during the fall of 1909. The writer, in July, examined the damage that had been done to the tamaracks in the State preserve of Itasca Park. This park, a primeval forest of fifty square miles, contains within its borders Lake Itasca, the source of the Mississippi. Attention was first attracted to the great amount of timber, dying or dead, in the swamp regions around the shores of the lake. At first it was thought that the trees were being killed by an excess of water, but upon closer examination it was proved beyond a doubt that *L. Erichsonii* was the cause. The moss under any of these trees, on being turned over, revealed many thousands of cocoons. Under absolutely dead trees only empty cocoons were found, but under trees

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