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## POPULAR AND PRACTICAL ENTOMOLOGY.

### THE STRAWBERRY ROOT WEEVIL IN BRITISH COLUMBIA.

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Since issuing Bulletin No. 8, of the Dominion Entomological Branch, on the Strawberry Root Weevil (*Otiorhynchus ovatus*) in British Columbia, certain studies have been undertaken which may well be recorded at the present time.

This weevil still maintains its high degree of importance in the strawberry plantations of the Province. It has gained access to the fine strawberry plantations of the Saanich Peninsula, near Victoria, to a degree which is causing considerable apprehension among the growers.

While primarily an insect adapted to the moist, cooler areas adjacent to the Pacific Ocean, it has been reported as causing considerable damage to plantations in the arid transitional areas of the interior. During the past two years reports of this nature have been received from northern points in the Okanagan Valley, and more recently it was observed in considerable quantity at Grand Forks. Many enquiries further have been received from the Lower Kootenay country, particularly Kaslo, Nelson and Boswell. It has not, as yet, been reported from the Creston district, but there is no doubt that its presence will be felt in this latter section at no distant date, even supposing it does not occur there at present.

It has been claimed that this insect is an introduced species from Europe. I find this very hard to believe, and I would be very much interested to find out on what grounds this statement is advanced. I have taken it at various altitudes up to 4,000 feet in the mountains, far removed from any cultivated land, and I have seen it on isolated, rocky islands of the Pacific Coast of British Columbia. In one instance, I remember finding it on a rocky