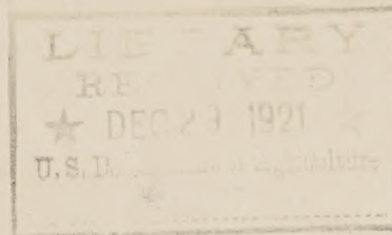


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INSECT PEST SURVEY

At the last meeting of this Association the Committee on Policy made recommendations, which were later endorsed by the Association as a whole, that the Bureau of Entomology, establish an Insect Survey. These recommendations were as follows:

" IT IS OBVIOUS THAT THE EARLY RECOGNITION OF RECENT INTRODUCTIONS WILL PROMOTE THE CONTROL OF NEWLY ESTABLISHED PESTS. THIS IS AN IMPORTANT PHASE OF ECONOMIC ENTOMOLOGY. AN INSECT SURVEY DESIGNED TO ASCERTAIN THE DISTRIBUTION AND THE EXTENT OF INJURY CAUSED BY VARIOUS INSECTS AND TO KEEP OFFICIAL ENTOMOLOGISTS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY APPRISED OF DEVELOPMENTS DURING THE GROWING SEASON WOULD PROVE OF GREAT VALUE IN FORECASTING PROBABLE INJURY. IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT AN INSECT SURVEY BE ORGANIZED UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY IN COOPERATION WITH OFFICIAL ENTOMOLOGISTS OF VARIOUS STATES OR STATE INSTITUTIONS."

Early in March the Insect Pest Survey was formally inaugurated and has functioned now for a period of 10 months. The original scope and organization of the Survey have not been materially altered, though many phases of this work have presented themselves in a new light as the work progressed.

It is now pertinent that the Association should review the program and procedure of the Survey as drawn up tentatively by the Bureau in order that constructive criticism and suggestions from those who make up its personnel be crystalized into definite form for the improvement of this work.

I am therefore presenting in the following pages the program under which the Survey is now operating for your serious consideration with the assurance that you are heartily in sympathy with this type of investigation as evidenced by your most hearty and complete cooperation during our few months of activity.

A. PROGRAM FOR THE INSECT PEST SURVEY

OBJECT:

THE OBJECT OF THE INSECT PEST SURVEY IS TO COLLECT ACCURATE AND DETAILED INFORMATION ON OCCURRENCES, DISTRIBUTION, ECOLOGY, AND RELATIVE DESTRUCTIVENESS OF INSECT PESTS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES, TO STUDY THIS DATA FROM MONTH TO MONTH, AND YEAR

TO YEAR, WITH RELATION TO THE SEVERAL FACTORS THAT INFLUENCE INSECT ABUNDANCE AND TO PREPARE THIS INFORMATION AND THE CONCLUSIONS DRAWN THEREFROM IN THE FORM OF TEXT AND MAPS FOR THE USE OF ALL ENTOMOLOGICAL WORKERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTRY.

The results to be obtained from this undertaking over a series of years are manifold. We should be able to throw light on the reasons for the cyclic appearance of insect pests, the gradual shift of regions of destructive abundance, the limiting barriers to normal dispersal, and the directive influences that determine the paths of insect diffusion. The relation of climatology, geography, topography and geology, as well as biological complexes of flora and fauna to insect distribution and abundance. The mapping of insect life zones will aid the working entomologist in more clearly grasping the relative importance of the problems within his own territory and may even indicate the type of agriculture that will meet with fewest entomological obstacles in a given region.

A second function of the Survey is its service; this though but incidental to its main object is of considerable value.

IT FURTHER ATTEMPTS TO DISCOVER AND RAPIDLY DISSEMINATE INFORMATION RELATIVE TO RECENTLY INTRODUCED PESTS; UNUSUAL EPIDEMICS OF NATIVE OR WELL ESTABLISHED PESTS; MIGRATION AND FIRST APPEARANCE OF DESTRUCTIVE MIGRATORY INSECTS, INDICATING THE RATE AND DIRECTION OF MIGRATION; AND TO COLLECT STATISTICS AND COMPILE DATA, ESTIMATING LOSSES OCCASIONED BY INSECT PESTS.

The discovery of newly introduced pests is carried on in close cooperation with the Federal Horticultural Board, State Plant Boards, Nursery Inspection Services, and other regulatory organizations throughout the country.

The Survey does not investigate life history of insects, devise means of control of pests, or undertake extension or eradication work.

ORGANIZATION :

The Insect Pest Survey is a cooperative organization in the broadest sense of the word. It obtains its data through collaborators in the several States. (59 collaborators are now functioning in this capacity). These are largely Entomologists of the Agricultural Experiment Stations, State Entomologists, and

Entomologists in the State Universities and Agricultural Colleges.

The organization may be divided into two branches: One, the Headquarters Office, known as the Office of Insect Pest Survey of the Bureau of Entomology, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D.C., and the other, the Collaborators Offices located in the several states.

The Headquarters Office functions in preparing at the beginning of each season an outline of the major subjects upon which it is desired that each collaborator, or group of collaborators shall make the subject of special survey during that season. It receives all notes from the collaborators, and maintains files of these notes in such a form as to be always immediately available. It maps distribution and summarizes these reports immediately for monthly, and later, in a more detailed manner, for the annual, publications. It correlates the insect data received with the climatological, topographical and ecological data to which it has access and finally draws conclusions based upon these investigations.

The collaborators offices function in directing the field surveys in their respective territories, correcting, revising and otherwise preparing notes for transmittal to Washington, and assume responsibility for all contacts necessary in carrying on Survey work in their respective territories.

PUBLICATIONS:

The Survey uses four channels through which to disseminate the information gathered.

1- Very urgent information that might be of practical value to the working entomologists is transmitted by TELEGRAPHIC REPORTS.

2 - Matters of immediate interest, but of not so urgent a nature as the telegraphic reports, are published in the form of mimeographed sheets in a continuous series known as SPECIAL REPORTS. These are usually issued within three days after the information is received in Washington.

3 - MONTHLY BULLETIN. This publication is for the timely dissemination of information on distribution, abundance, and destructiveness of insect pests.

During the past year, seven numbers of the Bulletin have been issued covering 285 pages, an average of 40 pages to the number. In the future we propose to issue 9 numbers to each

