

ECOLOGY OF THE CERAMBYCIDAE OF THE HURON MOUNTAINS

REPORT ON THE 1982 SEASON

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I had hoped to study the June cerambycid populations this season but this was not possible because of unfavorable weather and other problems. Work was not begun until 29 June, and continued only through 5 July. As in the previous season, the principal objective was a survey of the cerambycid communities in the study area.

Despite the limited operations, the 1982 season was very interesting and produced much useful information. Additional data were obtained on 32 species previously reported from the study area, and five new species were recorded. Six species are of particular interest and listed here to supplement the 1981 report.

*Desmocerus palliatus* (Forster). Host: living elder.

*Molorchus b. bimaculatus* Say. (Probable host: dead hardwoods).

*Physoctennum brevilineum* (Say). Host: living elm. I discussed this species in the 1981 report as endangered by loss of suitable host trees. The elms at Ives Lake are still alive although suffering from the disease, and the colony of beetles found in 1981 is still maintaining itself. I was able to confirm the presence of a second colony in another tree, suspected but not verified last season. The

prognosis for this interesting beetle remains very bleak however.

*Sachalinobia r. rugipennis* (Newman). (Probable hosts: dead spruce and pine) Only two specimens of this rare beetle have been previously collected in Michigan where, in the Upper Peninsula, it seems to be at the western edge of its range.

*Saperda concolor unicolor* Felt & Joutel. Host: living willow. Andrews had recorded this species, but I was not successful in finding it in 1981. Specimens were obtained this year around the willows at Ives Lake.

*Spondylis upiformis* Mannerheim. (Probable host: roots of dead pine or fir) Only three specimens of this beetle have been previously collected in Michigan. It is sometimes common in the coniferous forests of the Rocky Mountains and coastal ranges, but is rare here at the extreme eastern edge of its range. The disjunct distribution of *S. upiformis*, which includes a disjunction in the Black Hills, parallels that of some plant species in the Lake Superior area. It is also an interesting contrast with the distribution of *Sachalinobia rugipennis*, noted above.

*Trachysida aspera brevisfrons* (Howden). (Probable host: dead pine).

Another rarely collected species; the last reported collections in the Upper Peninsula were in 1878.

My present plans are to conduct the investigations originally scheduled for this year during the 1983 season.