

Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

New Haven

SATIN MOTH QUARANTINE

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The satin moth, *Stilpnotia salicis* Linn., was first discovered in the United States in June, 1920, a few miles north of Boston, Mass., whence this European pest of willow and poplar has spread

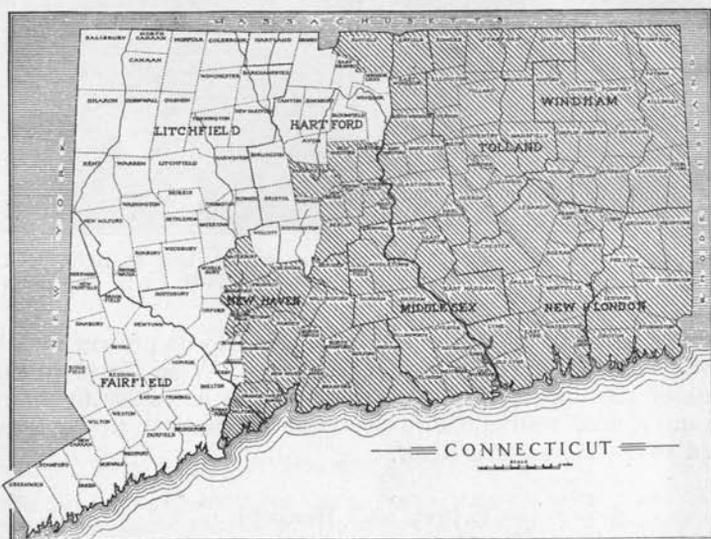


FIGURE 8. Map of Connecticut. Shaded portion is now under State and Federal quarantine on account of the satin moth.

until it now occupies nearly all of Massachusetts, except certain towns in Berkshire, Hampden and Hampshire Counties, the whole of Rhode Island, the eastern two-thirds of Connecticut, the southern half of New Hampshire, the southern half of Maine, and a few towns along the Connecticut River in Orange, Windham and Windsor Counties of southeastern Vermont.

In 1922, this insect was found at Bellingham, Wash., on the Pacific Coast, and it now occupies nearly all of the western half of that state.

Occurrence in Connecticut

In 1926, Federal scouts found the satin moth in two towns in Connecticut, Thompson and Stonington, which were placed under Federal quarantine. In 1928, state gipsy moth scouts found the insect in various towns scattered throughout the eastern portion of the state and in Suffield and Hartford, west of the Connecticut

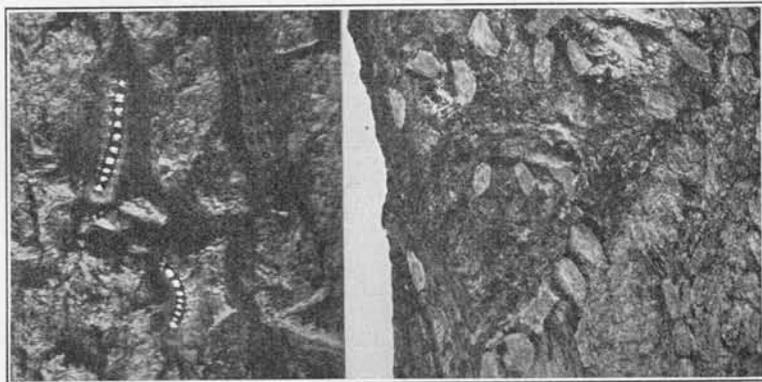


FIGURE 9. The satin moth. At left, caterpillars, and at right, winter cases. (After Burgess and Crossman, Dept. Bull. 1469, U. S. Dept. Agr.)

River. In 1930, the satin moth was found to be present in Milford, Naugatuck, Waterbury, Farmington, West Hartford and some of the towns eastward, so that it was necessary to extend the quarantine restrictions in southern Connecticut as far westward as the Housatonic River.

Injury and Remedy

The caterpillars feed upon the foliage of willow and poplar trees, often defoliating them. The remedy is to spray with lead arsenate in May, as soon as the trees are in full foliage.

Characteristics of the Insect

Both male and female moths are satiny white, without markings, and with a wing-expanse of nearly two inches. The eggs are laid in July on the bark in oval silvery-white patches about half an inch wide and three-fourths of an inch long, each containing an average of about 300 eggs. The caterpillars pass the winter when partially

grown, in silk cases in cracks of the bark. In spring, they emerge and feed upon the unfolding leaves, becoming fully grown in June. They are then about one and one-half inches in length and reddish-brown in color, with two narrow broken white lines lengthwise of the back and a central row of white spots somewhat dumbbell-shaped, as shown in Figure 9. They make their cocoons in folded leaves, crevices of the bark, and rubbish, and on fences and buildings. The moths come forth about 10 days later.

Quarantine

Since November 15, 1926, Federal Quarantine No. 53 has covered the towns of Thompson and Stonington, and a revision effective January 1, 1929, extended the quarantined area to include all towns east of the Connecticut River and the towns of Hartford and Suffield that lay west of the river. The first state quarantine concerning the satin moth was issued as Quarantine Order No. 19, effective March 15, 1929, and as regards area, coincided with the revised Federal quarantine mentioned above. On account of new infestations of the satin moth westward of the former regulated area, discovered in 1930, another quarantine revision became necessary. The revised Federal quarantine became effective February 1, 1931. The state quarantine has also been revised to cover the same area, which is shown in Figure 8. The order is as follows:

STATE OF CONNECTICUT
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
NEW HAVEN

Quarantine Order No. 29

CONCERNING THE SATIN MOTH

The fact has been determined that the satin moth, *Stilpnotia salicis* Linn., a pest of poplar and willow, has been found to occur in Connecticut outside of the areas restricted by Quarantine Order No. 19, effective March 15, 1929, and it is necessary to extend the quarantine restrictions and regulations to include all territory now known to be infested, in conformity with Federal Quarantine No. 53, as revised and effective February 1, 1931.

Pursuant to the provisions of Section 2124, General Statutes, a public hearing was held in New Haven on February 11, 1931. The present order extends the quarantine restrictions and regulations over portions of Hartford and New Haven Counties.

Now, therefore, I, William L. Slate, Director of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, under authority conferred by Section 2124, General Statutes, do hereby proclaim the following area to be under quarantine.

All towns in Middlesex, New London, Tolland and Windham Counties; the towns of Berlin, East Hartford, East Windsor, Enfield, Farmington, Glastonbury, Hartford, Manchester, Marlborough, New Britain, Newington,

Rocky Hill, South Windsor, Suffield, West Hartford and Wethersfield in Hartford County; and the towns of Beacon Falls, Bethany, Branford, Cheshire, East Haven, Guilford, Hamden, Madison, Meriden, Milford, Naugatuck, New Haven, North Branford, North Haven, Orange, Prospect, Wallingford, Waterbury, West Haven and Woodbridge in New Haven County. It shall be unlawful to move any poplar or willow trees or parts thereof capable of propagation from the restricted area designated above to any other portion of the State.

This order shall take effect March 20, 1931.

WILLIAM L. SLATE,
Director.

Approved:

WILBUR L. CROSS,
Governor.

Warning

This satin moth quarantine amounts to an absolute embargo. The movement of poplar and willow trees is not allowed as the difficulty of detecting the winter cases is so great that inspection and certification are not attempted.