

Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station  
New Haven, Connecticut

The 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

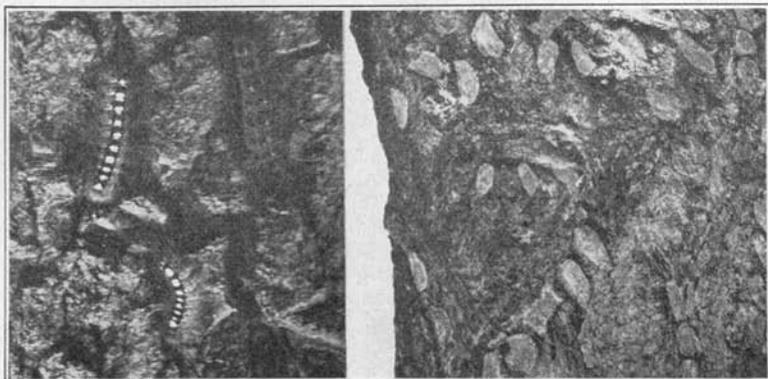


FIG. 16. The satin moth. At left, caterpillars, and at right, winter cases (After Burgess and Crossman, Dept. Bull. 1469, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture).

this European pest of willow and poplar has spread until it now occupies the eastern three-fourths of Massachusetts, the whole of Rhode Island, the eastern half of Connecticut, southern New Hampshire, southwestern Maine, and a few towns in southeastern Vermont.

In 1922, this insect was found at Bellingham, Washington, 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 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.

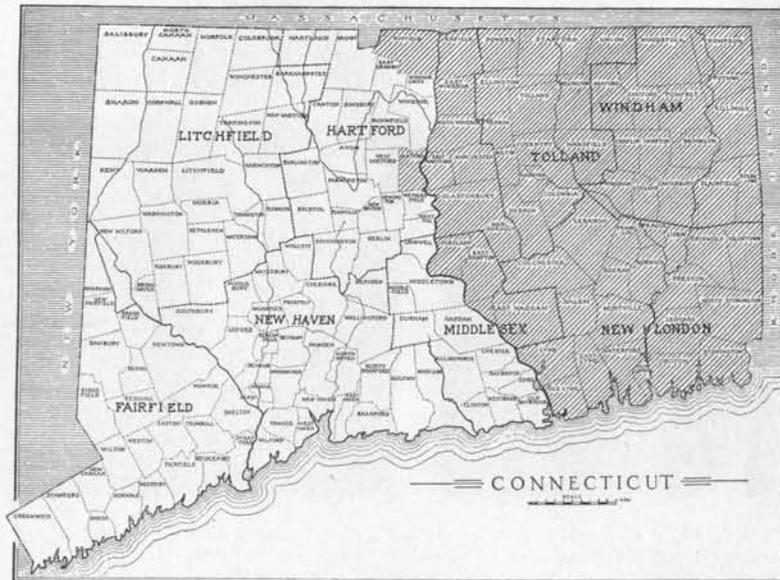


FIG. 17. Map of Connecticut. Shaded portion is now under State and Federal quarantine on account of the satin moth.

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, reddish-brown in color, with two narrow broken white lines lengthwise the back with a central row of white spots somewhat dumbbell-shaped, as shown in Fig. 16. They make their cocoons in folded leaves, crevices of the bark, in rubbish and on fences and buildings. The moths come forth about ten days later.

## QUARANTINE

Since November 15, 1926, Federal Quarantine No. 53, has covered the towns of Thompson and Stonington, but no State quarantine has hereto-

fore been established on account of the satin moth. The present quarantined area is shown in Fig 17, and the quarantine amounts to an absolute embargo. The movement of willow and poplar trees is not allowed as the difficulty of detecting the winter cases is so great that inspection is not attempted. The quarantine order follows:

## STATE OF CONNECTICUT

## AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

NEW HAVEN, CONN.

Quarantine Order No. 19

## CONCERNING THE SATIN MOTH

The fact has been determined that the Satin moth, *Stilpnotia salicis* Linn., a pest of poplar and willow trees is now present in various towns in Connecticut, and that Federal Quarantine No. 53 has been revised, effective, January 1, 1929, to include all towns in Connecticut east of the Connecticut River, and the towns of Hartford and Suffield, west of the Connecticut River. After due notice a public hearing was held at the Station in New Haven, February 25, 1929.

Now, therefore, I, Director of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station under authority conferred by Chapter 31, Public Acts of 1927, do hereby proclaim that a State quarantine is placed on all towns east of the Connecticut River, and the towns of Hartford and Suffield west of the Connecticut River, and that 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 15, 1929.

W. L. SLATE,  
Director, Connecticut Agricultural  
Experiment Station.

Approved:

JOHN H. TRUMBULL, Governor.