

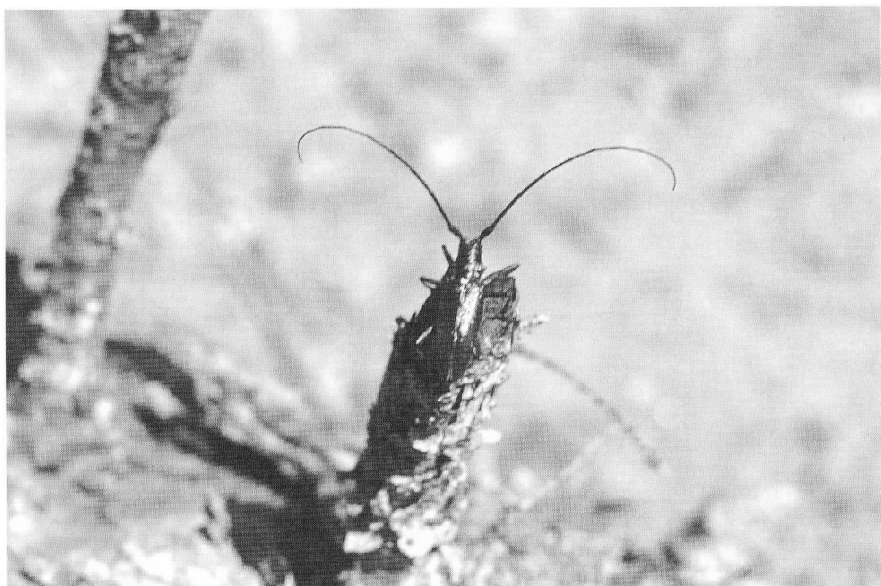
**Figure 6:** *Monochamus scutellatus* tunnel and prepupal chamber, packed with wood shavings behind it. The prepupa was hibernating in the curved chamber at the top of the photograph. Photo by N.G. Escott.



**Figure 7:** Galleries and entrance holes of *Monochamus scutellatus*. The galleries are shallow excavations under the bark made by the young larvae before they bore into the trunk. Photo by N.G. Escott.



**Figure 8:** Adult female *Monochamus scutellatus*. Photo by N.G. Escott.



**Figure 9: Adult male *Monochamus scutellatus*. Photo by N.G. Escott.**

counted 77 in January 1988 in a 1987 forest fire site in Sandilands Provincial Forest, near St. Labre Manitoba (Koes, pers. comm.). The forest in that area was primarily jack pine. In the winter of 1999–2000, we checked a fresh burn from the 1999 season near Black Sturgeon Lake, Thunder Bay District. Black-backed Woodpeckers were present, but in lower numbers than we had found in Fire 21. The forest type here was more extensively deciduous, and Black-backed Woodpeckers were only found in the coniferous areas.

The Black-backed Woodpecker is known to feed primarily on wood boring beetles, mostly cerambycids (sawyer beetles) and buprestids (metallic wood-boring beetles) (Bent 1939). The White-spotted Sawyer Beetle appears to be the

main winter food for Black-backed Woodpeckers in the Thunder Bay area. It was also reported to have been the primary food for this species in a 1983 fire near Fairbanks Alaska (Murphy and Lehnhausen 1998), and in a 1988 burn in Quyon Quebec (Villard and Beninger 1993). This insect is well known to the forestry industry, the adults often being found on freshly cut logs, laying their eggs. If the logs are not processed quickly, the larvae destroy their commercial value. While this insect has a two or three-year life cycle in the more northerly parts of its range, it may be only one year at the latitude of Thunder Bay. Alternatively, the time it takes for the insect to mature may depend on the length and severity of the winter. The winter of 1998–99 was a rel-

atively mild one. In a colder winter, two years may be the norm in the Thunder Bay area.

The observations noted above underscore the importance of recently burned coniferous woodlands to the winter survival of Black-backed Woodpeckers, and should be taken into account by forestry and wildlife managers who are involved in fire suppression activities and post-fire salvage logging operations in northern Ontario.

### Acknowledgements

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