

Descriptions of Larvae of Several Species of the Genus *Zale* (Lepidoptera: Phalaenidae)¹

By MARGARET R. MACKAY²
Division of Forest Biology, Ottawa

Introduction

The larvae of the genus *Zale*, unlike typical phalaenid larvae, are long and slender, and taper anteriorly and posteriorly. The anterior pairs of abdominal prolegs are reduced in size, and the anal prolegs are usually extended behind the body. The species are closely related to those of the genus *Catocala*, with which they should not be confused.

The nomenclature of the conifer-feeding species is that used by McDunnough (1943) in his revision of the *obliqua-metatata* group, and the species *lineosa* (Walker) is the species to which Morrison's names *galbanata* and *penna* are referable (Franklemont, 1950).

Though no differences in body setal pattern could be discovered among the species studied, setal maps of the thoracic and abdominal segments, as well as of the head shield, have been included with the illustrations. The system followed in naming the setae of the segments is that of Fracker (1915), and of the head, that of Heinrich as cited in Peterson (1948). An extremely useful reference to the morphology of phalaenid larvae is the publication *Tobacco Cutworms* by Crumb (1929); and Ridgway's (1912) *Color standards and color nomenclature* has been closely followed in describing the pigmentation of the integument.

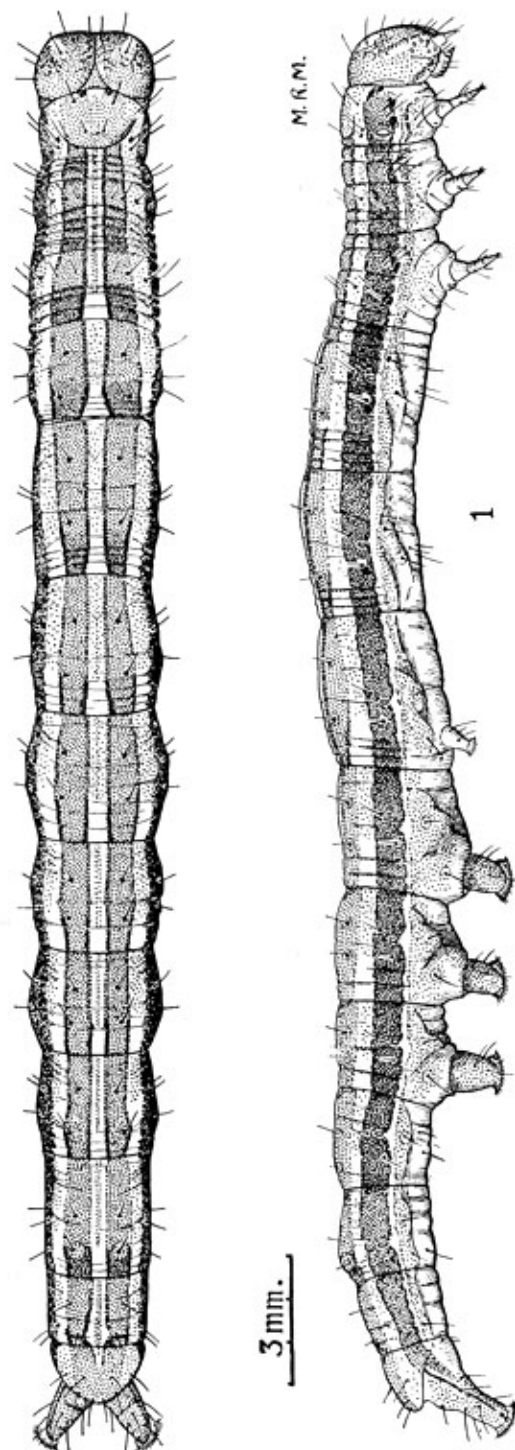


PLATE I

Fig. 1. *Zale belata* (Sm.) (form *ruperti* of McD.), mature larva, dorsal and lateral views.