which is exceptionally high. For the same year, the oil content of Bison, grown at the Experiment Station, was 39.2% and the iodine number, 184.

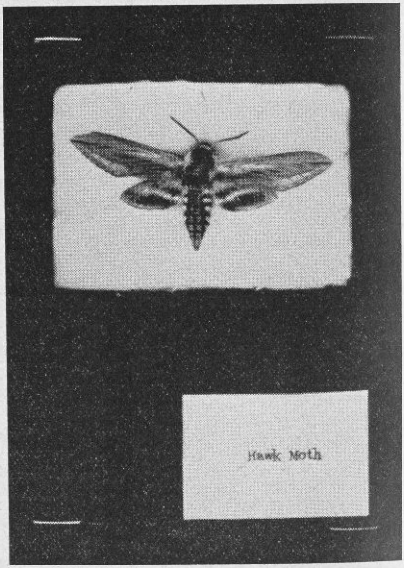
I showed a sample of this flax to Mr. B. E. Groom of the Greater North Dakota Association. He asked me to send a sample to the International Grain and Hay Exposition at Chicago. It took first award in 1938 and also in 1939 and 1940.

Summarizing briefly: Viking flax has a medium-sized seed with a golden yellow color, has pale pink flowers and yellow anthers; grows about 18 inches tall; is rust and wilt-resistant enough to be safely planted on land not too badly infected with flax wilt (*Fusarium lini.*) Viking is not as wilt-resistant as Bison which is still the safest variety to plant on land known to be severely infected with flax wilt. Viking is quite resistant to flax rust but, as in the case of most varieties, it is susceptible to pasmo. Viking will also stand more spring frost than Bison, Buda, or Linota. It grows about 6 inches shorter than Bison, but in a normal year, on good land, grows tall enough to be harvested with a binder, and will generally produce as high a yield per acre with oil of better quality. If Viking flax is used, seed of good germination should be used and it should be planted early on land reasonably free from weeds.

An Inexpensive Insect Mount

By Horace S. Telford, Assistant Entomologist,
North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station

TOO many young farm folk the cost of commercial mounts for preserving insect specimens is often prohibitive. To overcome this expense and to provide a small compact unbreakable mount, a special one was designed by the writer for this purpose, (Figure 1). The outcome is so promising that it should have widespread appeal to teachers, extension workers as well as to 4-H Club members, boy scouts and other groups interested in nature study.



This mount consists of a rectangular block of ⅜ inch plywood cut into any convenient size with a cut-out space to serve as a frame for the insect specimens to be exhibited. A piece of cardboard or sheet celluloid is stapled on the bottom of the frame and the space filled with cotton. Celluloid is placed over the entire top of the block, enclosing the insect specimens and the card containing the necessary data. Adequate space is provided on the lower portion of the mount for the data which may be typed or printed and pasted to the wood prior to placing the celluloid on the mount. The celluloid sheet is stapled on the plywood with an ordinary paper stapling machine. The size of the whole mount and the frame may be cut to any desired dimension. A convenient mount now in use at the North Dakota Agricultural College measures on the outside 4″ by 5½″ containing a 3″ by 2″ space for holding the insect specimens. To increase the attractiveness of the

mount, the wood may be carefully sandpapered and painted. A dark green or black finish is quite satisfactory. The cost of materials for one of these mounts (4″ by 5″) is slightly over four cents.

The Grain Storage Insect Problem in North Dakota

Survey Shows That the Flat Grain Beetle Is Predominating Species

By

J. A. Munro, Entomologist and
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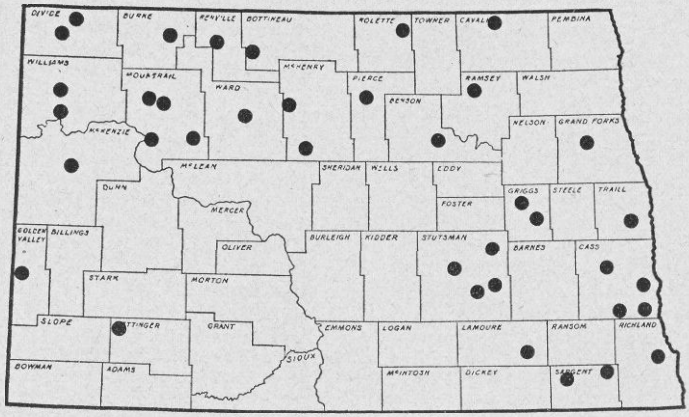
MUCH concern has been expressed of late by representatives of the grain trade regarding the possible insect pest situation in farm bins and grain elevators of the state. While grain storage insects are seldom troublesome in North Dakota, it is felt that, considering the present unusually large carry-over of grain from previous years, a survey of the situation would be of particular interest. Accordingly, a study to determine the occurrence and distribution of these insects has been conducted. The results indicate that the insect pest situation while not serious, at the present time, is of sufficient interest to justify presentation. This investigation is based upon samples of grain received voluntarily from farmers and owners of grain elevators and also as a result of a form letter sent to more than 1100 elevator operators in all parts of the state requesting infested grain samples.[1]



Map showing origin of infested samples

While any one or more of a number of species injurious to stored grain may be found in an infested bin, the most common insect encountered of late is the flat grain beetle. This beetle is reddish brown

[1] This survey was conducted by the NDAC Experiment Station and Agricultural Extension Service in cooperation with the Marketing Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. Assistance in laboratory routine was rendered by personnel of the National Youth Administration and Work Projects Administration.