

damage is slight, the damaged portion may be cut away. Entrance into the ears through the side or butt end ruins the ear for human consumption. The presence of the larvae, their excrement, plus fermentation odors and perhaps molds, are all undesirable features from the viewpoint of the consumer.

Other Insects

Sugarcane Borer.—The sugarcane borer, *Diatraea saccharalis* (F.), (Figs. 4 and 5), is a minor pest of corn and may cause slight damage in the form of broken tassels, broken stalks weakened by tunneling of larvae, ears fallen to the ground due to the shank being eaten partially through, or larvae tunneling between the kernels. The pest has not been abundant on corn, and is sporadic in its appearance. It is mentioned here because it has so many habits suggestive of the European corn borer, *Pyrausta nubilalis* (Hbn.), a pest which has not yet been found in Florida.³

A common habit of the sugarcane borer is to bore into the pith of the cob, hollow out a place, line it with silk and pupate. The larva prepares an exit hole prior to pupating. If in the stalk a thin membrane of plant tissue is left covering a hole almost cut through the tissue, if in the cob, the end is plugged with frass. Eggs of the pest are round, flattened, and laid in clusters, overlapping like shingles on a roof. They are white at first, later changing to a brownish-orange color. According to Holloway (9), eggs may be deposited on either side of the leaf. The larva is about an inch long, the body white and covered with regular brown spots. The head is also brown. The moth is the color of dried brown corn leaves, with the forewings edged with darker lines. The wing expanse is about one inch.

None of the control measures used against the corn earworm and the fall armyworm have been successful against this insect.

Fruit Flies and Scavenger Beetles.—Any injury to the ear of corn which exposes the kernel is almost sure to result in an infestation of small brown beetles (*Carophilus* sp.) about 1/8-inch long. Corn in the milk stage ferments quickly when the kernel is damaged and this probably attracts the beetles. Larvae of

³ An appeal is made to growers finding damage in cornfields having any similarity to the above to send specimens of the insect causing the damage to the Entomology Department, Agricultural Experiment Station, Gainesville, Florida, for identification.