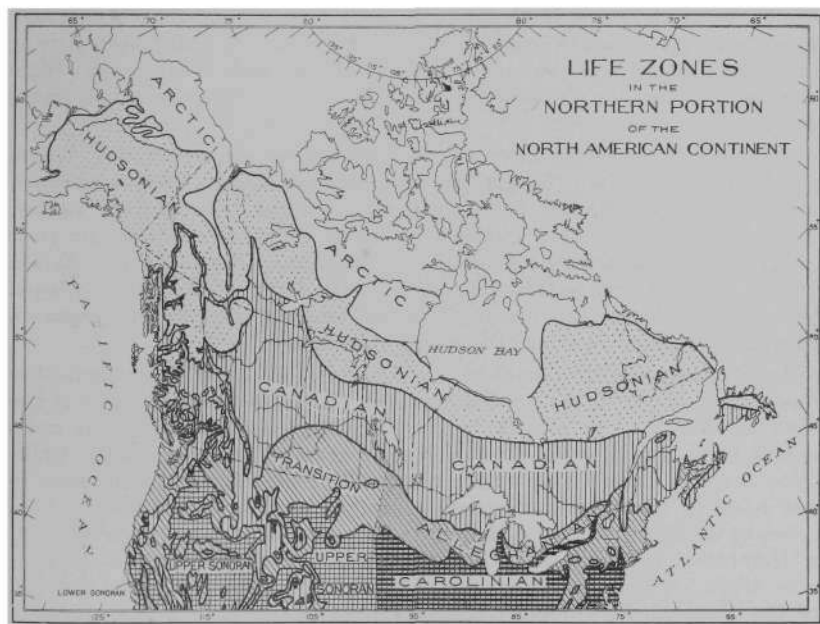


LIFE ZONES OF CANADA.

Macoun and Malte⁶ gave a provisional classification of the different "floras" in Canada: (1) *Arctic Zone*, lying north of the tree line; (2) *Sub-Arctic Forest Zone*; (3) *Hardwood Forest Zone*; (4) *Carolinian Zone* in extreme southern Ontario; (5) *Prairie* or grass-covered areas of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta (subdivided into the "First Prairie Steppe", the "Second Prairie Steppe", and the "Third Prairie Steppe" extending to the foothills of the Rocky mountains); (6) *Rocky Mountain Foothills*; (7) *Rocky Mountains* proper; (8) *Selkirk Range*; (9) *Coast Range*; (10) *Vancouver Island*; and (11) *Dry Belts* of British Columbia, the latter consisting of two floristic subdivisions, the first characterized by bunch grasses, and the second densely wooded, the characteristic tree being yellow pine.

To a certain extent, the faunas of Canada can be correlated with the above classification of floral zones. According to the present practice of most biologists, the very irregularly marked floral and faunal regions of North America are usually arranged under the general classification proposed by Dr. C. Hart Merriam⁷ and revised later by Bailey, Nelson and Preble, Brooks and Swarth, Taverner, Seton, and Anderson. The following map illustrates this arrangement.



For many reasons these life zones are perhaps more conveniently characterized by the typical plants which dominate each zone. Plant life is stationary as far as the individual land plants are concerned and can be determined at all seasons by trunk, twigs, or fruit, when the blossoms and leaves are absent—at times when the birds have migrated and the mammals are in hibernation or in hiding for other reasons.

The first three zones described below, *viz.*, the Arctic, Hudsonian, and Canadian Zones, are frequently combined as the Boreal Region of North America. The more