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### Cutline: Experimenting with volcanic ash

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holmquist/mmm  
6/22/81  
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western weeklies

CUTLINE FOR PHOTO OF TWO MEN IN LABORATORY-- #3

EXPERIMENTING WITH VOLCANIC ASH-- University of Montana researchers simulate volcanic ash fallout in a vacuum duster for an experiment to determine the effects of the ash on the western spruce budworm. Robert Postle, left, a UM research associate who constructed the duster equipment, controls the machinery which pumps air out and then releases it back into the cylinders, blowing ash from a suspended dish onto Douglas fir boughs. Jerry Bromenshenk, right, a UM ecology researcher, looks on, preparing to remove the boughs for experiments on the budworms' feeding, digestive systems and reproductive cycles. The research is sponsored by the U.S. Forest Service and UM. (UM photo by Cary Holmquist)

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