

Mr. A. W. Hanham (Canad. Entom., 1914, p. 145) has shown that in British Columbia sunflowers are especially visited by species of *Plusia* and related genera. Records from other localities suggest that much the same thing may be observed elsewhere, though no other collector has taken the trouble to make a careful list. At Boulder, Colorado, Sept. 2, 1914, in bright sunshine, I found *Caloplusia ignea* (Grote) visiting the flowers of *Helianthus lenticularis*. Also at Boulder, July 31, I collected *Plusia* (or *Syngrapha*) *falcifera* Kirby (*simplex* Gn.) at flowers of annual garden *Helianthus*. Three specimens were taken. -

During the season of 1914, the one really serious pest of our red sunflowers (varieties of *Helianthus annuus*) was the common *Nysius*. These insects assembled in numbers on the flower-stalks, and caused the heads to wilt and die. They seemed to be principally injurious on plants the heads of which had been bagged for cross-pollination, multitudes of them collecting just below the bag, and by their combined attack destroying the head. Although this is a very common insect, its name is not settled beyond doubt. Formerly, following Van Duzee and others, it was labelled *N. angustatus*; but according to Horvath this is a synonym of *N. ericae* Schill. Professor C. P. Gillette writes, however, that the common Colorado species is now to be referred to *N. minutus* Uhler. He even doubts whether true *angustatus* occurs in Colorado. Dr. Van Duzee writes that formerly he considered *minutus* a synonym of *angustatus*, but he now treats it as a distinct variety of *ericae* or *angustatus*. At La Jolla, California, he finds that all the specimens are *minutus*; but in Kansas and elsewhere in the Mississippi Valley he found *angustatus* the commoner form. It appears, from all this, that we should call our Boulder pest *Nysius ericae minutus*.

Dr. S. A. Forbes, in Rept. Ill. State Entomologist for 1913 and 1914 (1915), p. 4, refers to the sunflower weevil, "an insect new to agriculture which has led to the virtual abandonment of the growing of sunflower seed for oil." Dr. Forbes does not mention the scientific name of the weevil, but in a letter he kindly informs me that it is *Smicronyx fulvus*. Now, this *S.* (or *Desmoris*) *fulvus* Lec. is very common on the sunflowers at Boulder, but we have not found it a serious pest. There are two Torymine Chalcids,