

the midst of the Tensas swamps. Although the writer had been familiar with the beetle for years in the North, this was the first time its food plant had ever been determined by him. With this initial observation in mind, the same insect was afterwards observed to attack the leaves of the cow-pea in great numbers. At that time the two observations did not give any basis for assuming that the species would ever become a serious enemy of the bean and much less so of the cow-pea, such as has since been recorded of it.

In the same locality reports were received of peculiar injuries to growing corn which had been observed by planters in previous years. No definite information was just at the time obtainable from this source, and it was not until later, when the writer stumbled, as it were, upon the larvæ of *Diabrotica 12-punctata* in considerable numbers, attacking the growing corn in the fields, that anything definite was known. With this limited knowledge, later observations seemed to be more easily made, with the result that a damage of 75% was observed a week or ten days later in other corn fields.

When Mr. Jas. A. Hyslop made his first observations on the clover root curculio, *Sitones hispidulus*, in April, 1909, there was no indication that the species was of any particular economic importance. It happened to be convenient for Mr. V. L. Wildermuth to continue the work taken up by Mr. Hyslop, because of the latter's transfer to Pullman, Washington, so there was even yet no information obtained that could be presented as an excuse for spending much time upon it. However, the investigation was carried through to completion, and in presenting the matter for publication we found ourselves somewhat at a loss to give satisfactory reasons for asking for the publication of the completed work. The injuries of the larvæ to the roots of clover were so infrequent, and the beetles themselves were not found in any great abundance, so that the species could not be placed among those particularly destructive to the clover plant. Five years later, however, in 1914, the larvæ of the same insect were found to be seriously destructive in alfalfa fields, attacking the alfalfa roots in precisely the same way in which Mr. Wildermuth had observed them to attack the roots of clover. It now turns out that an obscure, though serious trouble, in alfalfa fields which has, up to the present time, puzzled agronomists was really due to the subter-