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# An outbreak of Say's Plant Bug in Utah Valley, 1958

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ties east of those rivers. Future collecting probably will reveal that the species has a more or less continuous range.

Populations in Daggett County undoubtedly belong to the Wyoming race, *P.p. clarus*, but those from Rich County probably represent an undescribed race. The populations in the Uinta Basin and in Garfield County around the base of the Henry Mountains may also represent new races.

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#### AN OUTBREAK OF SAY'S PLANT BUG IN UTAH VALLEY, 1958

Recently several species of insects in this area have been observed to get beyond the bounds of natural control and appear in unusual numbers. Around the middle of May Say's Plant Bug, *Chlorochroa sayi* Stal., began to appear in great numbers throughout the Provo area. It is ovopositing on the mustard, *Descuriana pinnata* (Walt.) Britt. Subsp. *glabra*? (W. S.) Dilling and other associated plants. A predaceous beetle *Collops bipunctatus* Say has been reported as feeding on the eggs and nymphs of this species. Two of my advanced Entomology students, Wilber G. Robison and Stanley Kay Taylor, collected more than 2,000 specimens of this pentatomid in an hour from mustards and other weeds and grasses growing on a vacant lot in west Provo. Mr. Taylor is making a study of the life history and parasites of this species.

*Chlorochroa sayi* is widely distributed in the Western United States having been collected in the states from Mexico to Canada. It is shield-shaped, differing between a bright green and a dark green color with three small white spots on the anterior and one on the posterior of the scutellum. It varies from 12 to 14 mms. in length. It passes the winter as an adult, eggs being laid in the spring. It takes approximately six weeks for adults to develop. In this area there are 2 to 3 generations each year. The Say's Plant Bug does damage to alfalfa, wheat, oats, peas, beans, grasses, cotton and weeds. Alfalfa grown for seed and wheat are frequently damaged in Utah and Arizona. Effective control of this species is obtained with D.D.T., chlordane, aldrin, or dieldrin. Information concerning the applications of sprays may be obtained from the County Agent's office.

—Vasco M. Tanner