LITERATURE CITATIONS

WADLEY, F. M. and D. O. WOLFENBARGER. Regression of insect density on distance from centers of dispersion as shown by a study of the smaller European elm bark beetle. Jour. Agr. Res. **69**: 299-308, illus. 1944.

WEBSTER, F. M. and T. H. PARKS. The serpentine leaf miner. Jour. Agr. Res. **1**: 59-87, illus. 1913.

WOLFENBARGER, D. O. Dispersion of small organisms, distance dispersion rates of bacteria, spores, seeds, pollen, and insects; incidence rates of diseases and injuries. Amer. Midl. Naturalist **35**: 1-152, illus. 1946.

..... The serpentine leaf miner and its control. Fla. Agr. Exp. Sta. Press Bul. 639. 1947.

A NOTE ON THE PREDACIOUS HABIT OF THE MIRID

Cyrtopeltis varians (Dist)

By J. W. WILSON, *Entomologist*
Florida Agricultural Experiment Station

During the course of investigations, at the North Florida Experiment Sation, Quincy, Florida in July, August and September, 1947, of means of controlling the green peach aphid, *Myzus persicae* (Sulz.), a small brown mirid was observed in large numbers on numerous occasions feeding on this aphid. During September, in a two acre field of shade tobacco that had been harvested and allowed to produce suckers, this mirid became so abundant that the previously heavy infestation of *Myzus persicae* was practically destroyed. In a tobacco seed bed planted for experimental purposes the mirids reduced the aphid population to such a point that investigation of chemicals for apid control could not be continued. Specimens were sent to Dr. C. F. W. Muesebeck, Division of Insect Identification, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, for identification. These specimens were identified by Dr. R. I. Sailer as *Cyrtopeltis varians* (Dist.). In his letter, Dr. Muesebeck stated that this insect had been reported as a predator on the suckfly *Dicyphus minimus* Uhl. and as injurious to tomatoes. From these reports it seems that *C. varians* may be both predacious and phytophagous. On one occasion during August several specimens (6 to 10) of *C. varians* were observed in the field feeding on about a third instar larva of *Protoparce sexta* (Johan.). Since this insect was observed only once in the act of feeding on a small tobacco hornworm larva it is not known that it will attack larger hornworm larvae.