

INTRODUCTION

The purpose and scope of this work is to set forth as clearly as possible the taxonomic characters of the species of aphids recorded up to 1950, on both native and introduced plants in the state of Colorado and adjacent territory belonging to the same biotic areas as contained in Colorado. The region herein treated comprises the whole series of life zones beginning with the Arctic-alpine which is inhabited by practically no aphids, to, but not including, the Lower Sonoran or desert zone. Geographically, the region comprises the Southern Rocky Mountains, the Wasatch and Uintah Mountains, the Jemez and Sangre de Cristo Ranges and adjacent plains. Politically, the region comprises the entire states of Colorado and Utah, southern Wyoming, southeastern and southern central Idaho and northern New Mexico.

This work is not a revision and responsibility is not assumed as to complete synonymy. However, considerable time has been spent on comparisons with similar species as far as they have been located by the regional keys in existence and by host plant records. The host plant lists are the only published guides to a large number of species described in recent years. A comprehensive revision of the aphids of not only North America but of the world is very much needed.

A conservative attitude has been taken as to the status of species doubtfully distinct, especially in cases where only a small number of individuals and only one life cycle form have been taken. It has seemed best to hold such species distinct and await collections of larger numbers which may show intergrading variations uniting some forms into one species or the discovery of other life cycle forms which may exhibit more distinct differences, thus establishing a separate status in other cases.

Careful descriptions, life history habits and drawings, the latter by the author and of equal authority with the text, are given for each species so that it will be possible for other workers to know definitely what the species are and to give a sound basis for writing of revisions by later workers.

The plan of classification followed is mainly that of A. C. Baker (1920a). Some workers will disagree with this, and doubtless improved systems will appear or, in the opinion of some, have already appeared. However, the characters on which these latter classifications are based are less obvious than those used by Baker and require clearing of the specimens. Most of the aphids used in this