The Tomato Russet Mite in Colorado

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In September 1943, mites were found injuring tomatoes in two fields in Mesa County and two fields in Delta County. These mites were determined by H. H. Keifer, Calif. Dept. of Agriculture, as *Phylllocoptes destructor* Keifer. This is the first record of the occurrence of this mite in Colorado.

About 8 acres of plants were killed in one 1-acre field. Straight sulfur dust and 25 per cent sulfur dust were applied to the remaining plants. The dusts appeared to stop the injury immediately. Nine days later crawling mites were seen on the untreated plants while none were observed on the treated plants. At the time the plants were dusted the weather was becoming cool, and probably very little or no additional injury would have occurred.

In checking the source of the plants, no definite information was obtained. Most of the plants used were from the Boulder Dam area; some of the replants were locally grown. - 6-2-44.