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Status of program for release of *Oberea erythrocephala* in Wyoming for the control of leafy spurge - 1983

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Fremont County

1980 release site (Popo Agie Ranch) – this site was visited on July 1, 1982, but no adults were found. Plants on the perimeter of the release site had been sprayed with herbicides. Only four plants were located on site with possible *Oberea* scars. Several plants were dug up in late May during a weed tour and one larva dissected from a stem.

1981 release site (Lander) – this site was visited on July 21 and August 16, 1982. No adults were found on either occasion. On the first date, of 300 stems of leafy spurge examined, 31 scars were located. Of 400 stems examined in August, 118 scars were found which could not be attributed to damage caused by marauding cattle. All but 7 were on plants at the point of initial release. No plants have been dug at this site.

Lincoln County

1982 release site (Afton, 10 miles N) - On July 4, 1982, 302 adults were released on leafy spurge plants dominating a hillside (86 flowering stems/m²). Males and females began copulating immediately. Some females, presumably mated in transit, began chewing holes in stems immediately.