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The Farm.

Diseases of Plants.

"Experiments and Observations on Some Diseases of Plants" is the title of the latest bulletin (No. 138) issued by the station at Geneva. Most of the results obstation at Geneva. Most of the results ob-tained in the experiments are negative, but they are none the less valuable, as they show that certain popular beliefs are with-out foundation. Ploughing under green rye, by some thought to be a preventive of potato scab, was found to be useless if, in-deed, it did not increase the amount of scab and decrease the yield. Potato stem blight was not communicated to the growing crop when diseased tubers were planted, thus confirming the opinion that the affection is physiological in character, and not due to fungi or bacteria. Salt solution, either as a spray or applied directly to the soil in which carnations were growing, proved utterly powerless to prevent or cure carnation rust and, in strong solutions at least, was injurious to the plants instead of promoting their growth, as many carna-tionists believe it will do.

The positive results announced in the bulletin are in connection with cucumber culture, and relate to the exceedingly beneficial results obtained by spraying the vines with Bordeaux mixture. Last season was a most unfavorable one for cucumbers, as all the enemies seemed to combine for the destruction of the crop, yet by thorough spraying good yields of both early salad cucumbers and late "pickles" were secured on the station experimental plats on Long Island. With early cucumbers spraying increased the yield at the rate of 30,450 fruits, or 12,405 pounds per acre, a gain of 75 per cent in number of fruits, or almost

o per cent in weight.

To show what results might be expected if entire fields were sprayed, an exact acre in a meadow was ploughed up and planted to late cucumbers, and the entire plat sprayed thoroughly eight times between sprayed thoroughly eight times between July 22 and September 20. The acre yielded 457,110 large "pickles" and 44,850 "gherkins," a total of 101,960 fruits, which sold for \$126.25. As the average yield of cucumbers on Long Island during 1896 was less than 20,000 fruits, and decidedly less during 1807, the great bases? during 1897, the great benefit from spraying can be easily seen. This thorough spraying of an entire field wholly prevented both downy mildew and anthracnose

From the experiments of the season it cems certain that spraying of cucumbers or prevention of these diseases need not be begun before July 15.

Bees in the Orchard.

Many fruit-growers do not thoroughly appreciate the value of bees in an orchard, or there would be more orchards with bees in them. Their value in an orchard was demonstrated in a most practical way at the Oregon Experiment Station some years ago. A few peach trees were forced into bloom in November, and a colony of bees was placed in the house when the trees began to bloom. For several days, however, a heavy fog prevented the bees from working; although the flowers were open, not a bee was seen upon them. The first bright days the bees set to work at once, and remained at work so long as there was anything for them. The result was that not a peach dropped at the stoning season, the time all unfertile fruit falls. The cropwas so heavy that it had to be thinned out. As a check test, one tree was protected so that not a bee could get to it. On this tree all the fruit dropped at the stoning period.
Bees and other insects have a duty to perform in the orchard, for which there is no substitute provided. This is the distribu-tion of the pollen from flower to flower and tion of the poilen from flower to nower and from tree to tree. They insure success in the orchard, and every fruit-grower should encourage the bees in their work by not spraying, or doing anything that would be injurious to the bees while the trees are in full bloom.—(Massachusetts Ploughman.

The Razor-Back Pig.

From the experience of bacon raisers, both North and South, we came to the con-

clusion that the best bacon is not produced from our most highly improved breeds, as they are commonly fed. As a rule, the bacon of the South is far superior to that bacon of the South is far superior to that
of the North. It is usually secured from
the nondescript hog, nearly mature; one
which has had to "hustle" except during
the last few weeks of its life, when it is
finished off by feeding a full ration of
corn.—(Country Gentleman:
The nondescript referred to is none other

than the much-maligned "razor-back." Time was when no other sort of bacon was known in the South, and it was the best bacon that ever man stuck his teeth into-Watch out for the razor-back. We have long believed he will come into fashion again. He is the healthiest hog that ever lived; in fact, hardly anything less powerful than dynamite will "phase" him. And he is a rustler from Rustlersville. It costs no more to raise a razor-back, as a rule, than it does a chicken. The breed has been allowed to degenerate to some extent, by neglect and shameful treatment, since aristocratic hogs have come into vogue; still, to this day whenever his blood is a prominent factor among hogs in the South, there they have the best bacon in the world. Let's get him back into his ancient purity. Then we will furnish bacon to Queen Victoria, and all the crowned heads and Dukes and Duchesses of Europe .-Texas Farmer.

The Currant or Gooseberry Worm.

At the first appearance of the destructive currant worm, prompt action is necessary if complete relief be desired, as the vora-cious appetite of this pest is wonderful, and the plants are rapidly denuded of their leaves. Probably the best remedy is white hellebore, which may be used without fear of injury in its contact with the fruit. It may be applied diluted in water and syringed with water and the powder dusted over ged with water and the powder dusted over them, or the latter following a rain. For a small number of plants the powder dusted will perhaps be found the best, as it seems to attach itself more lastingly to the leaves. A second application, about ten days after the first, will usually be found necessary. In the course of an hour after the applications have been made, the ground will be found covered with the dead or dying worms, and the bushes entirely abandoned. —(Meehan's Monthly.

* * * * Hints for Handling Comb Honey.

A clever suggestion originates with a correspondent of the Canadian Bee Jour In every crate of honey to be shipped nal: In every crate of honey to be shipped put a slip 5 by 8 inches, printed as follows: "Comb honey; how to handle it.—You must not drop it. Hold it only by the wood, and when removing it from the crate, or at any other time, do not break the delicate cappings covering the cells, otherwise the honey will run out. Where to keep it.—in a warm, dry room. No place too warm in which a person can live. Never put it in the cellar, as honey will draw dampness and cause the cappings to break and the honey to leak."

Baron Herschell, the commissioner appointed by the British government to the international conference to meet at Quebec in August, arrived in Montreal Friday morning from New York, having lauded from Europe recently. Baron Herschell was met by Sir Wilfrid Laurier, who came from Arthabaskaville for the purpose.

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Yours truly,

MES. C. LUMLEY, Cobourg, Ont.



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