

Stinkweed bait is prepared as follows: Weigh out 50 pounds of the freshly pulled weed, and place it in a heap on the floor of a barn or, if the day is calm, on dry hard ground. Sprinkle with sufficient water to moisten it thoroughly. Now dust in 1 pound of Paris green, turning the vegetation over constantly with a fork till the poison is evenly distributed throughout the heap. The bait is now ready for application to the furrow, along the bottom of which the plants should be scattered, 6 to 9 inches apart, so that 10 pounds will cover up to 50 or 60 rods (fig. 15).



Fig. 15.—Applying poisoned stinkweed to a dusty-sided furrow. (Original.)

The cost of the bait, exclusive of labour, is about 35 cents per mile.

It is advantageous to apply the bait late in the afternoon, since its attractiveness depends mainly upon the freshness of the stinkweed.

This bait proved to be as effective as poisoned shorts during the first two days after application, but it was not eaten to any extent when quite dry.

When stinkweed is not available it can be replaced with other vegetation upon which the larvæ will feed readily. We have used *alfalfa* with considerable success, and as a bait it is almost as good as stinkweed, though it is a little less retentive of its moisture. Since, however, no benefit is derived as a direct result from pulling alfalfa, the labour involved makes this a somewhat expensive bait when it is used to replace a noxious weed such as stinkweed. The new growth at this season is not sufficiently advanced to allow of its being cut with a mower.

In some cases it may be more convenient to spray vegetation intended for bait, before pulling. For this purpose a mixture of about 1 pound of Paris green to 30 gallons of water should be used, in order that the bait may be heavily coated with poison.

Some farmers are unable to obtain either shorts or green vegetation. For such we would recommend one of the two following baits, though they are distinctly inferior to the mixtures we have already described:—