

steel-blue color. The moths are on the wing from about the beginning of July to the close of summer, as they do not all come out of the chrysalids at the same time. The eggs are laid in crevices on the trunk of the tree close to the ground, and the larvæ when hatched bore through the bark down towards the root; their presence is usually indicated by a mass of gum mingled with bits of bark and excrement which is exuded from the burrow. As the eggs are laid at different times during the summer, larvæ of all sizes may be found when winter sets in. During the cold weather they remain torpid in their burrows and complete their feeding and transformations in the spring.

All sorts of remedies have been tried for the destruction or the prevention of the attacks of this insect, but no thoroughly satisfactory one has yet been found. On the whole, the best plan is to carefully examine all the trees, one by one, and cut out with a sharp knife the worms whose presence is indicated by a mass of gum. This is a slow and therefore expensive operation. Wrapping tar-paper about the trunk and a few inches below the surface of the soil will keep the moths from depositing their eggs. Mounding up the base of the trees with earth is also done with the same object in view, but there is a danger of injuring the bark and therefore the health of the tree, if the earth is left too long against it. Washes of various kinds have been tried, but most of them are dangerous owing to the tender character of the bark; the only one that seems to be both effective and safe is gas-tar, the smell of which keeps away the moth. It should be used with care and tried on a few trees to begin with before applying to a whole orchard.

Among other insects affecting the Peach may be mentioned the Plum Curculio, which injures the fruit, and a black Aphis which often swarms on the leaves.

FUNGUS DISEASES AFFECTING THE PEACH.

PEACH LEAF-CURL (*Exoascus deformans*), Fig. 50. This disease usually becomes apparent early in the season, when it attacks both leaves and young shoots. The leaves become thickened and much distorted, and the edges curled, giving a characteristic appearance. When only small areas of the leaf are attacked, they become arched and pale yellow or reddish in color. When much of the leaf is involved, such a pronounced curling may be produced as to almost bring the edges of the leaf together. The color of the attacked parts varies from yellow to red. The fungus hibernates in the tissues of the tree and therefore reappears each year. Fallen leaves should be collected and burned; and those branches which bear diseased leaves should be pruned back beyond the point of infection and thus get rid of the perennial part of the fungus. Spraying with dilute Bordeaux mixture just when the leaf-buds are beginning to expand and again at an interval of three weeks will be found of much benefit.