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### NOTES AND COMMENTS.

MR. E. WILLIAMS, of New Jersey, suggests an improvement in the naming of strawberries. He would give female names to the pistillate varieties, and male names to the staminate. Such names would designate at once the character of the flowers to the cultivator, who would know at a glance to which class they belonged. Of course there are some varieties whose flowers are perfect, and perhaps neuter names might be applied to these. Certainly some such plan would be a convenience.

NEW METHOD OF APPLYING KEROSENE FOR INSECTS.—The Wisconsin Station Report for 1891, E. H. Goff, Horticulturist, gives a new method of applying kerosene for insects, which would appear to be of value to us. It consists in having a pump so constructed that lower valve seat allows the entrance of water through one opening and kerosene through another. The two liquids become mixed in passing through the valves and cylinder of the pump, and are finally broken up into an exceedingly fine spray by being forced through a good spraying nozzle. The mixture is, of course, mechanical and not absolutely permanent; but still it has been found sufficiently slow of separation for safe use upon plants. When the spray is collected in a glass vessel, the liquid appears milky white, and retains its milky proportion for hours. This mixture has been tested upon the foliage of the evergreen, rose, strawberry, grape, raspberry, blackberry, plum, etc.; and in no case did it prove injurious, unless the amount of kerosene exceeded ten per cent. This mixture was found to be equally efficient in destroying insects as the soap emulsion, and no more injurious to the foliage. It is more satisfactory as it passes through the pump more readily. As the kerosene acts rapidly upon the rubber piston of the pump, it is necessary to use a leather piston in the place of the rubber.