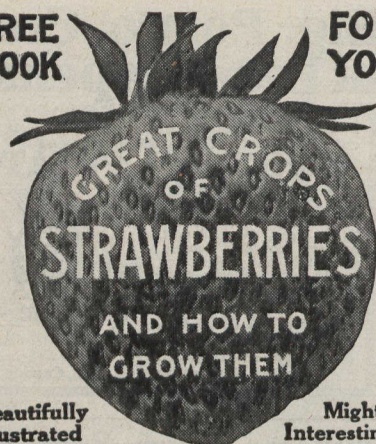


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## Bulletin on Miscible Oils

Reviewed by Prof. W. Lochhead

Home-made Miscible Oils and Orchard Tests of Miscible Oils.—Delaware Agricultural Experiment Station, Bull. 79, by Penny & Houghton.—Horticulturists appear to be as anxious to find out some easily prepared and easily applied cheap substance that will control the San Jose scale, as the alchemists of the middle ages were to discover the Elixir of Life. The lime-sulphur wash does not satisfy them, for it is abominable substance to apply. For some years, efforts have been made to prepare a cheap miscible oil that will emulsify readily with water. The Delaware station has done more perhaps than any other in the line of experimenting with soluble oils. The kerosene-limoid (K-L) mixture was well received a few years ago, but the verdict is that it is not thoroughly effective against the scale. A more viscid oil than kerosene was needed. Accordingly, experiments were begun with the heavy oils, such as paraffin oil, crude oil, and rosin oil, and so forth.

The miscible oil was prepared by mixing (1) the soap solution with (2) the heavy oils. The soap solution was made by heating to about 300 degrees Fahrenheit in a large iron kettle: Menhaden fish oil, 10 gals.; carbolic acid (liquid crude), 8 gals.; caustic potash, 15 lbs; and adding to this hot mixture: kerosene, 14 gals.; water, 22 gals. This on stirring forms a uniform liquid which does not separate on standing, and which may be kept for months.

To make the miscible oil (Delaware formula 34, considered one of the best), the following proportions are used: Soap solution (as above), 9 gals.; paraffin oil, 40 gals.; resin oil, 6 gals.; water, 1 1/4 gals. These mix well when cold. This miscible oil is mixed with about ten parts of water for spraying purposes. Thus, the writers state, nine gallons of soap solution will make 35 to 50 gallons of miscible oil, and this in turn form 350 to 750 gallons of spray material, at a cost of about one cent to one and a half cent per gallon. This miscible oil can be used along with Bordeaux by adding from two to five gallons to a barrel of Bordeaux. Professor Houghton, the entomologist, tested the different miscible oils on scale-infested trees, and found them very effective.

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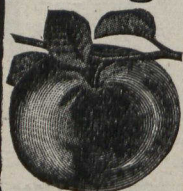
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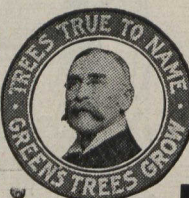


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