

This question has been studied very thoroughly by Prof. Selby for the last three or four years, and he is of the opinion that grape rot will always be more difficult to control on sandy, open soil than on the heavy clay soil in the Cleveland region. In Ohio the fruit growers use their sandy, open soils for other purposes than grape culture, and there the rot is less severe on the heavy clay soils.

There are so many evidences of the good results of careful spraying, according to the recommendations given by Prof. Selby, that no further experimentation along the line of prevention of grape rot will be undertaken at present. He is satisfied that the methods in use at present will control the black rot every time. I may add that vineyards which were left untreated, or not carefully treated, show either total losses or a very large percentage of rotten grapes. Even the most careless of grape growers in the Cleveland region have come to the conclusion that they must get out of the business, or spray according to the formula given them by the Experiment Station, and which I have outlined. By the way, Prof. Selby does not think much of the dust sprayers, and he is a strong believer in the use of the

liquid Bordeaux as a fungicide, which he considers a fungicide par excellence.

There is no doubt that the black rot can be kept in check in Ohio, but it remains for us to prove that it can be held in check in Ontario. It appears that one of the best means of preventing this disease is to burn all the "mummy" grapes which would naturally remain on the vines all winter. These are probably the source of the contagion for the coming season, and too much care cannot be taken to have all such diseased grapes destroyed.

An important point that must be taken into consideration by grape growers is that the black rot is a very difficult disease to control, and that two or three sprayings are not sufficient. It takes six or eight sprayings to keep the disease completely in check and to get perfect grapes. As we know that Bordeaux will discolor the grape when it reaches a certain size, it is well to spray with the soda-Bordeaux or the ammonia-copper-carbonate solution for the last two or three sprayings. It remains for the Ontario growers to show that the black rot can be controlled in their own country under slightly different conditions from those obtaining in Ohio.

ORCHARD FERTILIZERS

W. H. DEMPSEY, TRENTON, ONT.

I FIND it increasingly difficult to obtain good wood ashes with which to fertilize my orchard. Until two years ago I was able to secure 50 to 100 pounds of ashes a week from the lake steamers stopping at Trenton, but since wood has become so dear the steamers have been burning coal, and that source of supply has been cut off. I am now thinking of buying some com-

mercial fertilizer which I have seen advertised in *The Horticulturist*.

I use all the stable manure I can secure. The ashes are sown broadcast whenever I can obtain any; the manure is carted on during the late winter and early spring and spread thoroughly. Orchards, the same as all other land on which farm crops are raised, require heavy fertilizing to keep them in good condition.

You should receive *The Horticulturist* promptly on or about the first of every month. Do you? If you don't, let us know.

I enclose \$1 for *The Horticulturist*, which is much improved of late.—(John Mather, Ottawa, Ont.)