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Summer Spraying

R. J. Messenger, Bridgetown, N. S.

ALL men know, and a few practically realize, that any work thoroughly done gives better results than the same work carelessly put through. This knowledge should be applied to the work of spraying.

THE BUD MOTH

The bud moth is the earliest insect we are up against in Nova Scotia, and for many years we have felt that we had his life history down pat as well as the means necessary to combat him. But now our scientists are working hard to upset old theories and recommend new ones as well as new practices, and we very soon will be viewing the bud moth from another standpoint, and accomplishing his destruction in a different manner. My reason for the doubt expressed is that one of our new scientists stated to me recently that our early spray was for the bud moth. Certain it is, he is a destructive little wretch, and we have felt that his work was of sufficient importance to warrant the necessity of a strongly poisoned spray early in the season just as the fruit buds were swelling or as the warm days come.

The bud moth is alive all winter as a small brown worm with a black head. He hides himself under a little rubbish in the axil of a bud or the angle between the twig and the bud. He bores a very small hole into the blossom and eats out the vital part, and later emerges and rolls himself in the leaf that has opened.

The fact that the hole he makes in entering the bud is small is the reason we want a strong spray thoroughly applied on those buds when the little fellow leaves his winter quarters. At least! so scientists of the last decade and experience have taught us, and this spray generally is applied in May from the fifth to fifteenth.

Our other enemies in Nova Scotia are brown tail moth and canker worm, of which we have just finished a cycle. A little codling moth and a few lesser enemies all controlled by the later sprayings with which we will deal, and the great enemy of growers who want clean-skinned fruit—the apple scab fungus.

MATERIALS TO USE

In the use of materials also, we are transitory and know not what a season

may be financially interested to draw after them the whole unthinking flock in a scramble after the new thing. We all like to be popular, but still I would not condemn our old friend bordeaux, even if many lay the russetting of fruit at his door. In any case, I shall use bordeaux for spraying potatoes, and we may not find in lime-sulphur, after ten years' unprejudiced use, the bonanza it appears at present. By buying it in com-

mercially prepared form much-wanted time is saved and we will use it for a while at least. For dormant spraying, we use of the commercial preparation, such as is sold by the Niagara Spray Company, about one gallon to ten of water. For the later sprays, about one gallon to thirty or forty of water.

USE OF ARSENATE

For insecticides, the only spray strongly recommended is arsenate of lead on the ground that it is harmless to the foliage and yet kills the bugs. It is also found to increase the fungicidal properties of the lime-sulphur with which it is mixed.

In my own experience it is not extremely harmful to anything except the orchardist's pocket, and unless severely agitated it settles to the bottom of the cask and stays there. However, its expense spells profit to the sellers, and the former are always legitimate prey. It is safe and won't burn your trees. It is mildly active, and if you put it in in sufficient quantities to allow for what settles to the bottom of the cask and give the bugs a good feed, you will be doing the popular thing, and no one will criticize. In the meantime, we realize that we have not attained the perfect spray mixture. After two years' experience, I am strongly tempted to go back to the bordeaux and the quick-acting, sure, inexpensive, and if intelligently used, non-



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may bring forth. Outside of the great mass of trash of a proprietary nature that is constantly being brought to the notice of the public, and which no intelligent orchardist bothers with, unless it is strongly recommended by our experiment stations, there are two principal mixtures of fungicidal value. These are the old bordeaux, which we all know how to mix, and the newer lime-sulphur, which none of us liked to mix before we got the commercial ready-to-wear stuff. Now the strain of spraying has shifted from our muscles and time to our pockets and we save the former and pay the other fellow to prepare our material.

Men are like sheep, and it only needs a little recommendation from men who