

The only question that need arise in the minds of the growers is, "Does it pay to spray?" A. L. Safro, writing in the *Journal of Economic Entomology*,^{*} propounds the rule that "the cost of spraying truck crops for pests that threaten to destroy all or a large part of the crop does not become prohibitive until the immediate application in view, together with such following farm operations as can be definitely foreseen, have a total cost in excess of the reasonable expectation of gross returns from the crop in question." He further remarks that "when from \$150 to \$175 per acre has been expended in growing onions and a severe epidemic of onion-thrips threatens, it is certainly good business to spend even as much as \$50 per acre, if necessary, in spraying to save even as little as \$100 of the original investment." To these statements may be added the remark that efficient control in one year undoubtedly reacts upon the degree of



Onions attacked by thrips. Note the variation in size and the characteristic appearance of the leaves. (Author's illustration.)

infestation in the next year. The advisability of controlling the onion-thrips, therefore, is a matter which can only be settled by the individual grower himself or by a community of growers.

The onion-thrips passes through four distinct stages in its development—the egg, larva, pupa or nymph, and adult. The winter is passed

* Safro, J. E. E., Vol. 10, No. 6, 1917.

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