

locust will make its attack from sod-land. It is well to remember that as a general rule the Lesser Migratory locust is found on the more sandy land, while the Pellucid locust frequents the richer soils.

The eggs of all our common locusts are laid in late summer or early autumn. Commencing about July 10, the insects continue to lay until the cool nights of approaching winter finally destroy the few that remain.

THE CONTROL OF LOCUSTS.

Locust control is based upon a knowledge of the insects' habits and is, therefore, varied to conform with these habits at different seasons of the year.

BURNING.

As was pointed out above, the young hoppers require some sort of shelter in which to hide at night. Weedy patches in fields may afford such shelter, but a preference is usually given to dead grass such as that found on roadsides, where the hoppers frequently gather in enormous numbers. A knowledge of this habit enables us to take advantage of it by scattering straw near the places where the hoppers are feeding, or by spreading a small quantity among the grass to which they retire towards evening. This straw can then be burnt at night, preferably when there is a breeze blowing. Millions of hoppers may be destroyed by this method. Roadsides can also be burnt to great advantage when the hoppers first emerge there, and before they have had time to invade the grain-fields.

PLOUGHING.

There are several ways in which the plough can be utilized in fighting hoppers. A single deep furrow is sufficient to protect a crop for several days when the hoppers are still very small and, in combination with poisoned-bait scattered along it, is often of marked value as a means of killing the insects. A ploughed strip some 30 feet wide also acts as a barrier for a considerable time. Another use for the plough is to drive the hoppers gradually to a central strip by ploughing inwards on either side of a field. This practice can nearly always be followed at summer-fallowing time. When the remaining unploughed strip is some 40 feet wide, it can be left for a few days while poisoned-bait may be scattered over its surface. By this method most of the hoppers in the field will be killed.

POISONED-BAITS.

Of all the means employed in destroying locusts, no other can compare favourably with the poisoned-baits, the utility of which has been proved beyond all question. Their success, however, depends greatly upon correct application, while failure can nearly always be traced to some fault in mixing or applying the