

as recommended for greenhouse plants is probably the safest method of disposing of green fly on window plants.

Spraying and syringing the foliage, especially the underneath side, as often as possible, at least two or three times a week, is not only the safest remedy, but the best preventive of the destructive attacks of the dry-air pest, viz., the red spider. Keep as moist an atmosphere as possible around the plants, and spray or syringe the foliage on fine sunny days. Ventilate the rooms also on fine warm days when possible. This should be done by lowering the top sash of the window; this avoids chilling the plants. The bottom sash should be raised for ven-

tilation only when the thermometer registers several degrees above freezing, 45° to 50° being safe figures to act on, if the wind is not cold and biting. Water the plants thoroughly at the roots, but only as often as it is needed. The latter point can only be determined by close observation of the needs and requirements of each individual plant. Bulbs while forming flower buds and when in flower require plenty of water, as well as soft-wooded plants, such as geraniums, stevias, spireas, etc. Freesias require plenty of water for a time after they have done flowering, and even a little liquid manure to help develop the new bulbs for next season.

Hamilton.

HORTUS.

GLADIOLI AFTER FLOWERING.—I watch my Gladiolus beds very carefully, and as some sorts are earlier than others, I take them up as they ripen-off, and put them into the house. In the back kitchen there is a copper close to a patent kitchener, where there is considerable heat, and there I place them. They remain for a couple of weeks until they are quite dry, when I put them in paper bags and lay them by. That they will bear some considerable drying-off I have proved, for a small box of mixtures was forgotten for some weeks, and when taken out I did not think they were good for much. I, however, planted them in an out-of-the-way place under the shade of trees, and there they have grown and bloomed most vigorously. The Gladiolus disease seems in some way to be connected with climatic influences, and results, probably, from exceptional causes. These may be removed, and the bulb itself acquire more

hardiness. Hollyhock growers will remember that some years ago the same thing took place in that plant. Collections were cut up, and the attempt to grow the flowers pronounced hopeless. It, however, after some years of much heart-burning to growers, wore itself out, and the plant is now being grown again. So with the Gladiolus, I believe. Those who have seen a collection of them as cut blooms will desire to see them extensively grown. As cut flowers they have few rivals. They bloom so well in water, daily expanding their flowers, and are so vivid and varied in their color, that they must be great favorites. My ideas on their cultivation would be, Dry the roots well, keep them in a cool place to prevent their growing too early, manure highly in the autumn, again give a slight coating in spring, and do not plant too early.—*Garden Work.*

