

Farmers Institute Report.

997. SIR,—Where and how may I obtain a copy of the Farmers Institute Report of Ontario.

HERBERT, *Ottawa.*

Write F. W. Hodson, Parliament Buildings, Toronto.

Black Currants Not Productive.

Reply to Question 978.

If Mr. Collins will try mulching his black currants, instead of cultivation in the early part of the season I think he will have better results. As soon as the fruit is picked the mulch may be removed, and cultivation resorted to for a short time. I prefer to apply mulch in the fall.

STANLEY SPILLETT.

Roses and Red Spider.

998. SIR,—Your letter replying to my enquiry regarding the culture of pot roses was duly received, and I thank you for the information contained therein.

In February the plants commenced to grow nicely and one is now coming into bloom. I find the leaves dropping, however, and there appears to be some insect at work. I enclose samples of the infested leaves. The insect is very tiny, looking like a small white dot and always appears to be under the leaf. I shower the plants daily with clear water and occasionally with soap-suds. In watering them, I put a teaspoonful of ammonia to a quart of water, about once a week. I am a great lover of roses and desire to succeed with them, and if you can tell me how to exterminate the insect that is troubling them, I shall be greatly obliged.

(MRS.) B. KELLY.

*Reply by Prof. H. L. Hutt, O. A. C.,
Guelph.*

The destructive little insect at work upon your rose is the red spider, a pest much more common upon house plants than is generally supposed. To the casual observer his work may be apparent in the yellow leaf and sickly appearance of the plant, but it is only by close inspection that the tiny little spiders are

seen, unless they become very plentiful, when their small webs on the under side of the leaves betray their presence. The warm dry atmosphere of most dwelling houses is just what the red spider delights in, and is what is most trying upon house plants. The atmosphere should be kept as moist as possible by means of water evaporating on the stove or furnace.

The best way to get rid and keep plants free from red spider is to syringe them daily with water, forcing it well up under the leaves. Showering it on from above will not be effective, as the spider works mostly on the under side of the leaf. If the syringing cannot be conveniently done, dip the plants frequently until the spiders take their departure.

Strawberry Rust or Leaf Blight.

999. SIR,—When is the best time to spray and what should be used to prevent it? and how much liquid is needed per acre?

T. H. ALTON, *Woodbank.*

Spray with Bordeaux mixture after first blossoms fall, repeat after picking season, and again about two weeks later—or, instead of second and third sprayings, burn foliage. The quantity of Bordeaux per acre would depend upon fineness of spray; probably from 60 to 80 gallons.

Raspberry Plants.

1000. SIR,—Should raspberries be dug up in the fall and trenched, or dug up in the spring, when time to plant?

T. H. ALTON, *Woodbank.*

Either plan will do, but the first is preferable for yearling plants. Many wait for the young red raspberry shoots that come up in May, and plant them as they would tomato plants, and with good success.