

DEAR SIR,—

As correspondencè is invited respecting the habits, localities, occurrence, etc., of insects, I take the liberty to offer a few remarks on the *Doryphora 10-lineata*, and also to send you a list of the Geometridæ that I have thus far taken in this locality.

Wishing to ascertain if the domestic fowl were likely to be of any value in reducing the numbers of *D. 10-lineata*, I procured the assistance of a neighbor who kept fowl (I do not keep them myself), and the following is the result of our experiments :

Our first experiment was to offer both larvæ and beetles to the fowl, but they refused to touch them, and acted as if somewhat afraid. Next we mixed the insects with the corn and other food that was given them, but they refused even to eat the corn for a time ; by-and-by, however, they began to eat the corn and soon lost all fear of the insects, although they still refused to eat any. After a few days, by keeping the insects in their food all the time, some of the bravest of the hens began to eat a few insects, and it was not long before the rest joined them, and in a few days more they appeared to relish the beetles about as well as the corn. Up to this time I did not observe any of the fowls eat a beetle from the potato vines, but they now began to do so, and we were obliged to put them in their food no longer. After this the beetles were so reduced in number in this garden that they did no material damage.

It would seem from the above that although the beetles were naturally repugnant to the domestic fowl, yet an appetite for them may be acquired. If the substance of the above has been published I was not aware of it, and give it for what it is worth.

I noticed in the last report of the Entomological Society of Ontario, in the experiments on the Colorado Potato Beetle, by W. Brodie, the remark that "it is very doubtful if *Doryphora*, either in the larva or imago state, will feed on *Solanum dulcamara* or *Datura stramonium*." I have found the insect in both these stages plentifully on *S. dulcamara*, which grows quite abundantly near this place, and they wholly consumed both leaves, flowers and fruit of every plant in this vicinity. They were more abundant on these plants than on my potato plants, which were not more than five rods from some of the former.

I took a few examples of *Brephos infans* Mos., March 23rd, which is some two weeks earlier than I ever made a capture of them before.

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