

NICOTIN.

Laying some refuse tobacco stems from the cigarmakers', in the centre of each bush about May 1st, or mulching the bushes with tobacco stems, or these mixed with strawy manure, afford a complete remedy.

DUSTING WITH SOOT.

This has recently been recommended as being equally as destructive to this worm as is hellebore.

CUT WORMS.

(*Agrotis*, *Noctuidæ*, etc.).

Of these destructive worms, which have the habit of leaving their places of concealment in the soil, at night coming to the surface and cutting off almost every kind of newly set vegetable and flowering plants, there are now known to be many species. Those of the genus *Agrotis*, being mostly thick, greasy-looking caterpillars of some shade of gray, brown or green, variously marked, are the best known and well to be looked upon with dread.



(FIG. A.)



(FIG. B.)

These troublesome pests, which are doubtless the cause of more loss to farmers in the spring months than any other insects, are the caterpillars of a number of different dull-colored moths (Fig. A.) which fly at night. The worms, one kind of which is shown at Fig. B., are smooth, greasy-looking dark caterpillars, ranging from about  $\frac{1}{2}$  an inch to 2 inches in length at the time they injure crops. They feed at night and hide during the day time. The eggs of most species are laid in autumn, and the young caterpillars make about a quarter of their growth before winter sets in. They pass the winter in a torpid condition, and are ready in spring to attack the young crops as soon as they come up. The full growth of most species is completed by the first week in July, when the caterpillar forms a cell in the earth and changes to a chrysalis, from which the moth appears about a month later.

REMEDIES—CLEAN CULTURE.

As the young caterpillars of many species hatch in autumn, the removal of all vegetation from the ground as soon as possible in autumn deprives them of their food supply and also prevents the late-flying moths from laying their eggs in that locality. Fields or gardens which are allowed to become overgrown with weeds or other vegetation late in the autumn are almost sure to be troubled with cut worms the next spring.

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(FIG.)