

Dipping.

Add 1 lb. 40-per-cent. formaldehyde to 30 gallons of water. Put enough of this into a barrel or other vessel to completely immerse a sack of potatoes. With an ordinary 40-gallon barrel this will take about 25 gallons. The remainder can be put in some convenient container to make good the waste as each sack is dipped. Immerse a sack of potatoes, raising it up and lowering it a few times to hasten the penetration of the liquid, and leave for one and a half to two hours. Take out and spread them out to dry on the prepared floor. This method is, however, too slow if large amounts are to be treated. In this case immerse as before for fifteen to twenty minutes; then take out, put on the prepared floor or on some dipped sacks, and cover with other dipped sacks or canvas to keep in the gas, and leave until one and a half to two hours have elapsed since the first immersion. The sacks can be put out side by side in regular order and the time when the first is taken out noted. They can then be removed from the other end of the pile in the same order, dumped, and spread out to dry. In this way six to eight times as many tubers may be treated in the same time. After removing the sack from the immersion it may be stood for a few minutes in another tub to catch the excess of liquid which drains from it. At ordinary temperatures the liquid does not become appreciably weaker, and it is only necessary to add enough fresh solution to keep the liquid at the level required for full immersion. If more convenient for any reason, the tubers can, of course, be placed directly in the liquid, but as a rule they are much more conveniently handled in sacks. After the day's work is over put into the liquid the sacks, baskets, etc., to be used afterwards in handling the treated tubers, put on the lid of the barrel or cover over, and leave for two or three hours or overnight. Planters, wagons, etc., should all be disinfected, preferably with the stronger solution previously used for the floors, or the liquid left over from dipping may be used. In this case it would be well to wash them down twice.

In cutting potatoes, have two knives and a small dish of the formalin solution at least as strong as that for dipping. If a diseased tuber is cut, drop the knife into the dish and take out the other. This will avoid contaminating sound tubers from diseased ones.

Treatment with Corrosive Sublimate.

This is the most effective, and the only satisfactory one against *Rhizoctonia*. It has, however, the following drawbacks:—

(1.) Corrosive sublimate is a violent poison to human beings and animals if taken internally. It must therefore be used and disposed of with great care. After using, dig a hole where there is no danger of the liquid draining into surface channels, and pour it in.