

ly sound grains in these plants are not in reality sound—existing statements to the contrary—and further, that they might insidiously transmit the smut disease to the seedlings which spring from them. If so, very obvious limitations surround the choice of an adequate method of treatment.

A thorough search has resulted in the discovery of spores, and other noteworthy indications of the parasite in a significant number of these suspected grains. This fact alone may account for the prevalence of smut in the fields of many wheat-growers who treat their seed before sowing. If so, the hope of prevention lies in the use of a weak solution for a more prolonged period of time. Here, as with the conditions noted in Section II., hasty methods of treatment cannot be completely effective, especially if the seed has been taken from a smutted crop.