

### Host Plants.

The plant most commonly attacked in Nova Scotia is the Cow Parsnip (*Heracleum lanatum*). The cultivated Parsnip (*Pastinaca sativa*) is usually affected whenever it is grown for seed and the Wild Carrot (*Daucus carota*) is also known to be attacked in America. Besides the foregoing, *Heracleum spondylium* and *Heracleum sibiricum* serve as food plants for the insect in Europe.

### Natural Enemies.

Riley states that no parasites were bred in the United States by him, but mentions the following which have been recorded by European writers: *Cryptus flagitator* Grv.; *Pimpla heraclei* and *Hoplismenus dimidiatus*; *Cryptus profligator* Grv. and *Ophion vulnerator* Grv. Bethune was also unable to secure any parasites, but states that the Hairy Woodpecker (*Picus villosus*) destroyed many larvæ and pupæ. Harrison states that the greatest natural enemy is the earwig, which destroys the pupæ.

At Truro we have reared a number of hymenopterous parasites from this insect, but these have not yet been determined.

### Remedies.

Bethune suggests dusting with hellebore for controlling the Parsnip Webworm. Riley recommends spraying with arsenate or the destruction of affected stalks. A. J. Cook says that a dilute watering mixture of an arsenate is by far the best remedy; he also recommends dusting with London Purple. Harrison believes in destroying the wild plants and handpicking the parsnip flowers.

Unfortunately we have not yet succeeded in finding any remedy that will completely control this pest, though experiments on a rather small scale were undertaken this season. The habit of the insect in tying up the seed head with silk and working inside a silken tunnel makes the work very difficult.

Spraying with lead arsenate or Paris Green just as the larvæ were hatching had little apparent effect. Dusting with Paris Green 1 part to 25 parts or with air-slaked lime gave somewhat better results, and when the umbels are open, it will prevent them from damaging any new seed. It will not, however, effect the caterpillars in the umbels which have already been tied up with silk. Cutting off and burning affected seed heads, as has been suggested, would