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POPULAR AND PRACTICAL ENTOMOLOGY.

THE RELATION OF AGRONOMY TO ENTOMOLOGY: A PRACTICAL ILLUSTRATION.

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Numerous instances are on record where the occurrence of a noxious insect has resulted in recommendations which are not only effective in controlling the pest, but at the same time a benefit to agriculture. It is here sufficient to illustrate with such common examples as the northern corn root-worm (Diabrotica longicornis) and the corn root-aphis (Aphis maidi-radicis) which are controllable by proper rotations, and the alfalfa weevil (Phytonomus posticus) which is checked by the use of methods beneficial to the plant and disastrous to the insect. Recommendations for Hessian fly control may likewise be considered beneficial from the point of view of the agronomist, since it has been learned that the time of seeding to avoid the fly attack in the fall is coincident with the proper seeding date regardless of insect prevalence, and further that the supplementary recommendation, namely that of destroying the summer brood of fly by plowing under the stubble, is a good agronomic practice according to certain authorities, and especially in those sections where the fly is so frequently abundant.

In the past we have been largely dependent on two practices for the control of the common white grub (*Lachnosterna* spp.), namely that of pasturing hogs in infested fields and a rotation whereby corn, the most important field crop injured by grubs, is planted the year of grub abundance on ground which was continually cultivated during the flight of May-beetles the preceding spring. In other words, the control is practically a recommendation to plant corn on corn ground, that is, corn on ground likely to contain fewer grubs, in order to avoid injury. This can hardly be considered a remedy since it avoids rather than destroys the insect, and the practice of planting corn on corn ground is not good