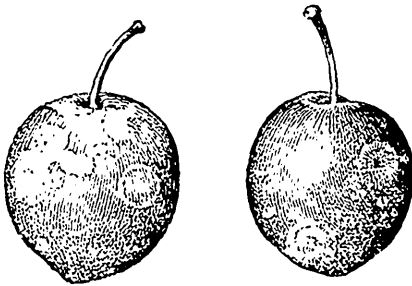


## A DESTRUCTIVE DISEASE AFFECTING NATIVE PLUMS.

*Cladosporium carpophilum*, (v. Thümen.)

By JOHN CRAIG.

*(Cladosporium carpophilum.)*

During the past two years many complaints have been received from farmers and fruit growers in regard to a disease which has caused their red plums to shrivel and drop quite suddenly when almost mature. In many sections during the past season the crop has been an entire failure. As the disease appears

to be spreading, it would seem that in the near future very active measures should be instituted to check its increase.

Prof. L. H. Pammel, of the Iowa Agricultural College, who has given the disease special study, has kindly supplied me with the following facts, which I quote in his own words:—

“My first acquaintance with this disease as affecting our cultivated plums was in 1889.<sup>1</sup> The disease having appeared very destructive to certain plums since that time, and the fungus has been on the increase.

This spotting is caused by a parasitic fungus, *Cladosporium carpophilum*, which is abundant on peaches, especially on the later varieties. So injurious is it to certain varieties that Dr. Smith<sup>2</sup> finds that it not only injures the appearance of the fruit somewhat, but when very abundant the flavour also. I have heard growers in Texas speak of it as nothing serious, but to my mind there is no question that it greatly lessens the crop, and also causes a cracking of the fruit as Dr. Smith finds, making it especially subject to the attacks of *Monilia fructigena*. Several other species of *Cladosporium* are troublesome, the *C. cucumerinum*, Ell. and Arth. is troublesome to cucumbers. Several species

1. Meeting of Iowa Academy of Sciences, Sept. 5, 1890.

2. Journal of Mycology, Vol. V., p. 32.