

Many plants get almost smoke enough from cigars and pipes. I would do twice as much work cheerfully to kill the red spider, but a hand-to-hand fight the whole year round will not destroy him. Perhaps everyone has not observed red spiders: they are no larger than a small grain of sand; the small ones are like fine dust; they live on the under side of the leaves and on the stems, and may, if watched, be seen to run briskly about; the young ones are whitish, but usually they are of a dull red color when grown: they are innumerable. Syringing the back of the leaves and stems and preserving a damp atmosphere at all times keeps down the red spider; but so much damp is in itself bad for Verbenas. I have sometimes taken my pots of Verbenas (house-plants) every day and dipped the foliage in a pail or tub of water; this wets the back of the leaves where red spiders live without drenching the soil. A damp house makes Verbenas mildew—mildew is readily removed by dusting the foliage with flowers of sulphur; an old flour dredge, salt box or a muslin rag are as good for this purpose as an elegant bellows costing a dollar or more.

Angle-worms are injurious to plants, Verbenas and Roses in particular; these are easily destroyed by lime-water; but this is strong, and inexperienced persons must use it carefully; the proportion mentioned by Henderson is, I think, one peck of lime (unslacked) to forty gallons of water. I take a quart of lime in a half barrel of water, leave it several days and use one-third of this to two-thirds clear water; this destroys many thread-like worms, but I think it agrees with ear-wigs. I gave the ear-wigs trouble one year by syringing every part of the empty green-house in the fall with boiling water containing an ounce of carbolic acid to every gallon. This thinned out all the vermin a great deal. The hot water makes it necessary to handle the syringe with towels. I have tried most of the advertised washes for plants and they are good, but they are no better for each purpose than any one article I have mentioned. None that I have used or seen used in larger houses will exterminate red spiders.

Mealy-bug or Scale.—These must be removed by washing, picking, or brushing with an old tooth or nail brush where the