

J. A. MORTON: I understood you to say in the course of your lecture that the potassium sulphide mixture is as useful as any other for destroying the gooseberry mildew. Now I have been taught that it is not. My experience with potassium sulphide thus far is that if you are not very careful it will dry up the leaves. I lost about half the leaves off my bushes after one application. Bordeaux mixture I consider a great deal safer. I have tried potassium three years, and Bordeaux mixture I have given only two years' test. Bordeaux is, in my experience, the safest and best remedy. This present year I have had no mildew on my gooseberries. Out of two hundred and fifty quarts I do not believe I had half-a-dozen gooseberries that showed any signs of mildew at all.

The SECRETARY: What kinds, Mr. Morton?

Mr. MORTON: All English varieties except Whitesmith. Before treating with Bordeaux mixture I had made up my mind to quit raising English gooseberries. One year, to test it, I treated one-half of my plants with Bordeaux mixture, and left the rest untreated. I do not advise anyone to do that from a commercial standpoint. The half not treated was badly mildewed, but the part treated with three applications of Bordeaux had no mildew. I can also corroborate what Prof. Pantan has said with regard to the Bordeaux imparting a beautiful healthy appearance to the foliage. I found this in the case of the potassium sulphide, that, although I gave it as faithful a test as I did the Bordeaux, there would be patches which escaped the effect of the application. I think the Bordeaux acts more than by contact. Potassium acts only by contact. I also noticed that the foliage of my gooseberries that had been treated with potassium sulphide had not the healthy look that those had which were not treated. Perhaps that is the result in part of the treatment they had received the year before. But I will certainly require more proof and more experience to convince me to go back to potassium sulphide. Another thing about the potassium sulphide is that it is not the most pleasant smell to have about the place.

R. B. WHYTE (Ottawa): I have had considerable experience with fungicides for the gooseberries. I grow about thirty varieties; some are very subject to mildew. I agree with Mr. Morton that potassium sulphide has not been as successful with me as the copper carbonate. I use carbonate-ammoniacal solution. On those which were sprayed with ammoniacal solution there was no mildew; on those treated with potassium sulphide there was a great deal. But I find that the Bordeaux spots the leaves while the ammoniacal copper carbonate does not.

Prof. PANTON: The ammonia makes it a little more expensive.

Mr. WHYTE: A little.

Prof. CRAIG (Ottawa): I am pleased to hear the remarks of the last gentleman. I have been experimenting on the celery with very good results. The question of the gooseberry mildew has been pretty well settled, but our latest experience has corroborated the experience given by Mr. Morton that Bordeaux mixture has given us the best results in preventing the gooseberry mildew. When potassium sulphide was first recommended by the Farm we had not then tried Bordeaux mixture for this disease. Since that time we have found that by using a weaker solution of the Bordeaux mixture we have better results. I think with regard to the remedy which Mr. Fisher has suggested, that of sulphur, he refers more particularly to the powdery form of mildew. It is not so effective for downy mildew.

The SECRETARY: I think that we are very apt to become discouraged too soon with our spraying experiments. Because we do not see the results the first year we give up. I believe that next year we may see the results of this year's work, and so on from year to year, because we are increasing the vigor and health of the plants. Now, if any plant is stunted it cannot do much with fruit; you must get it into a healthy condition first. It may take a year or two to get your plants into a vigorous state of growth to produce fruit, and when in this state they are better able to resist mildew. We should keep on for several years, and then we will find that results are forthcoming. I wish to refer to a little experience in this line. There were twelve gooseberry plants (Whitesmith) in one row, and I have applied Bordeaux mixture for the last two years. Now they are very subject