

## BUDDING CHARACTERISTICS OF TREES.

The gradual growth and development of prunes, apples, and cherries, from the swelling of the buds to the opening of the blossoms, varies considerably in different varieties of fruit trees. The low temperatures which prevail in the early days of the spring, tend to retard the development of the buds. This fact more than any other interferes with the ready control of the thrips. Emergence of adults from the soil takes place from towards the end of March to the middle of April, at a time when the buds of the majority of fruit trees are commencing to burst. The early spring is often accompanied by cold winds and rains. The adults, therefore, which have emerged, are forced to penetrate beneath the imbricated scales of the buds for protection and warmth. Feeding takes place within the bud, and the adults seem disinclined to move very far. When a bright warm day is encountered, the thrips at once assume great activity. However, it has been observed in the respective spring seasons of 1916 and 1917 that a great deal of damage takes place during these cold backward days after the first development of the buds has commenced. The whole crop might be entirely ruined in three or four days of such weather, and this is especially liable to happen with pears. Consequently, it is essential that growers should fully realize this danger and prepare themselves accordingly. They must be careful to note the first appearance of the adults in the spring, and must differentiate between early and late varieties of trees. As has already been remarked, the early bursting buds are most liable to attack in the spring and they should therefore receive the first attention. As a guide to orchardists of Vancouver island, the facts regarding the developmental phases of different varieties of fruit trees have been tabulated as follows:—

TABLE IX.—BUD AND BLOSSOM DEVELOPMENT OF FRUIT TREES IN THE SAANICH PENINSULA, VANCOUVER ISLAND, B.C., IN 1916.

Crop and Variety.	DATE.		
	Buds Bursting.	Buds well Open.	Trees in full Bloom.
<i>Pears—</i>			
Kieffer.....	Mar. 26	April 1	May 3
Bartlett.....	" 27	" 1	" 4
Flemish Beauty.....	" 27	" 2	" 4
Bosc.....	" 27	" 3	" 4
Louise Bonne.....	" 29	" 1	" 4
Boussock.....	" 29	" 1	" 4
Jules Guyot.....	" 29	" 1	" 6
Rivers' Princess.....	" 29	" 2	" 6
<i>Apples—</i>			
Red Astrachan.....	Mar. 27	April 5	May 14
Duchess.....	" 28	" 2	" 4
Gravenstein.....	" 28	" 6	" 10
King.....	" 28	" 3	" 16
Red Cheek pippin.....	" 29	" 5	" 15
Belle de Boskoop.....	" 29	" 5	" 18
Delicious.....	April 1	" 9	" 20
Grimes Golden.....	" 1	" 9	" 18
Wealthy.....	" 3	" 8	" 19
Ben Davis.....	" 5	" 8	" 18
Rome Beauty.....	" 5	" 10	" 20
Northern Spy.....	" 5	" 10	" 22
<i>Plums and Prunes—</i>			
Italian Prunes.....	April 10	April 14	April 24
Columbia.....	" 12	" 16	May 1
Ponds' Seedling.....	" 13	" 18	" 9
Damson.....	" 13	" 18	" 1
<i>Cherries—</i>			
Olivet.....	April 5	April 10	May 4
Blag.....	" 5	" 10	" 1
Royal Anne.....	" 5	" 10	" 2