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## SPRAYING TESTS AGAINST THE SCALE

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**L**AST spring a considerable quantity of the lime and sulphur mixture was used in the Niagara district in combating the San Jose scale. It is gratifying to note that wherever it has been thoroughly applied the results have been most satisfactory.

About the middle of July and again one month later, in company with Prof. Lochhead, P. Hodgetts, Secretary Fruit Growers' Association, J. Fred. Smith, Glanford, Chief San Jose Scale Inspector, and Robt. Thompson, St. Catherines, I visited a number of peach, plum, and pear orchards in the St. Catherines district which had been more or less badly infested with the scale. In every instance where trees were sprayed with the lime and sulphur mixture the scale was checked, just in proportion to the thoroughness with which the spraying was done.

From what was seen in the orchards and from the statements of many of the fruit growers, there seems to be no doubt that this mixture will destroy the scale, but to do so it must come in direct contact with the scale, as any parts left uncovered in the spraying, act as a seed bed for the reinfestation of the whole tree. As it is practically impossible to cover every crutch and crevice on the tree, the use of the lime and sulphur

spray may not exterminate the scale, but it has been clearly demonstrated that the pest can be controlled, provided the spraying is carefully done.

One very pleasing feature in connection with this matter is that, while the cost and labor entailed in preparing and applying the lime and sulphur mixture is considerable, it is not so great as was anticipated, and is not regarded as an insurmountable difficulty. Further, its application has apparently greatly reduced the amount of leaf curl.

In the June number of the Horticulturist (page 240) it was announced that several barrels of lime-sulphur and sal soda, and lime-sulphur and caustic soda mixtures had been prepared and applied. It will be remembered that the advantage of these mixtures over the ordinary lime and sulphur is that they do not require boiling and thus this tedious part of the manufacturing process is saved. A thorough inspection of the trees sprayed with these preparations shows that they have been about as successful in destroying the scale as that made by boiling. More experimenting will have to be done before it can be said definitely that it will always give as good results, but enough has been done to demonstrate that this method of preparation