

## FUNGICIDES.

This name is given to certain chemicals or mixtures that have the property of preventing the development of plant diseases or of destroying their germs: potato scab, mildew, apple, cereal rust and most of the diseases of vegetables, fruit trees and bushes. Let us state here that these various diseases have caused crops to be lost valued at about \$60,000,000, in the Province of Quebec, last year. By this fact, we have lost 14 million bushels of potatoes valued at \$18,000,000 dollars, 4 million bushels of oats, valued at 3 million dollars; 350,000 bushels of beans, valued at 2 million dollars. The tax levied by these parasites is really too much expensive, particularly if we consider that we are in possession of the means to reduce it 50%; which would swell the purse of the Quebec farmer by \$30,000,000.

The fungicides, the preparation and use of which are herein described have everywhere given the best results. No reason should prevent farmers from making use of them: their own interest being at stake. This also affords a means for increasing production considerably and no person can give a proper excuse for sowing potatoes, wheat or oats that have not undergone the formalin treatment; and for growing fruit and vegetables without spraying them with Bordeaux mixture.

### Formalin.

Liquid chemical, also called formaldehyde, found at all drug stores. It is a strong seed disinfectant; by using it, we will obtain healthy plants, stout, large crops and products of high quality.

**PREPARATION.**—Simply consists in pouring a determined quantity of formalin into a certain amount of water. Hereafter necessary details are given for the treatment of the various seeds.

### POTATOES.—

*Formula:* 1 pint into 30 gallons of water (1 pint weighs 1 pound) or still one half pint (one half pound) into 15 gallons of water.

*Length of the bath:* 2 hours.

Potatoes (whole or cut) are put in clean bags and soaked into the barrel containing the formalin solution. After 2 hours, the bag is lifted and allowed to drain above the barrel. Potatoes will afterwards be spread on boards to dry. If the seeds are to be divided into sets after the bath, the following precautions must be taken: to have on hand several knives soaking in a receptacle filled with pure formalin. When one happens to slice a scabby, rotten or spoiled tuber, it must be thrown away, the knife must be dipped in formalin and another one used in its place. The same precaution applies any time when

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