

**Labels for Trees.**

Very convenient labels can be made of strips of zinc. The name, if written on such labels with an ordinary pen, and a solution of sulphate of iron, will be very legible and lasting. The strip of zinc is then turned around a twig of the tree, with the name on the inside of the coil, to protect it as much as possible. The tree will not be injured by such a label, as the latter readily yields to the growth of the twig. The name can be easily seen by opening the coil a little.

A writer in the Albany Cultivator recommends marking the names on similar zinc labels by a number of small holes punched side by side to show the name. This would be much slower to mark, and not much, if any, superior to the plan we have described above.

**Tying Up Early Cabbages.**

The tying up of the leaves of early cabbages, says Gardening Illustrated, is much practiced by the London market growers, and is one to be commended. The operation is a simple one, just, in fact, similar to that adopted in the case of Cos lettuces. The soft outer-leaves are folded carefully around the heart or centre of the plant, and the whole is bound firmly with a withe or piece of bast. There are several good reasons given by market-growers for this practice. The centre being protected from the weather, the cabbages heart sooner by two or three weeks than they otherwise would do, and they are more easily handled in gathering and packing for market. The plan is one that is seldom adopted in private gardens, but there can be no doubt that it is one that can be recommended, inasmuch as there is a gain of a week or two as regards cutting, and compact little cabbages are always preferable to loose ones, which, moreover, are apt to get broken, or other, wise injured in gathering. It may be worth while to test this method with our early cabbages.

Mr J. S. Woodward says he has been successful in curing the black-knot of plum trees, in its early stage, by the use of turpentine. He cuts off the knot and applies the turpentine.

Thorough pruning of gooseberry plants is said to be one of the most effective preventives of mildew. If the plants are planted in a semi-shady situation, all the better for them.

There is no doubt that tens of thousands of barrels of good fruit are every year wasted or thrown away from a want of system in marketing. Supplies are often sent to markets already overstocked, with a deficiency in other places, and no previous arrangement is made in advance for receiving and disposing of the surplus. An exception to this confused mode is given in the last report of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Association, by J. F. Smith, of Juniata county, whose annual receipts in the sale of the crops from his well-managed peach orchards amount to many thousands. About a month before the fruit ripens an estimate is made of the number of crates required of each variety, and then going to Altoona, for instance, responsible parties who handle fruit at that place are engaged to take charge of a certain number of crates of each named variety, to be delivered as they ripen. In small towns an agreement is made to sell to one, and to no one else, and none are sold at retail. It is of the utmost importance that fine fruit should be grown, and sent to market in the best condition, and that the grower should earn a reputation for supplying none but fruit of the finest quality.

**Entomology.****Seasonable Hints.**

**THE CABBAGE CATERPILLAR.**—The eggs from which these well-known insects are hatched are laid early in spring by a white butterfly. When the larvæ are full-grown they crawl to some hiding place to pupate, or form chrysalides, which have a peculiar angular form by which they are easily recognized. Remedies:—One of the old plans devised for their destruction is to place boards between the rows, slightly elevated above the ground. Under these the caterpillars will form their chrysalides, and can then be easily destroyed. The boards should be laid down as soon as the pest appears on the plants and should be examined at least once a week. Ice-cold water dashed over the cabbages at midday has been said to cause the destruction of these caterpillars by causing them to fall to the ground and preventing their subsequent ascension. As a general rule this remedy has not proved very satisfactory. Perhaps the best way known at the present time to get rid of them is to dust Pyrethrum or Buhach powder over the plants by means of a bellows, the muzzle of which (after being charged with the powder) is inserted among the leaves and a puff given with the handles. This operation is best done in the morning when the dew is on and the air is calm.

**THE TURNIP FLEA BEETLE.**—This lively insect is seen on almost all young plants, especially on those belonging to the cabbage family, perforating the young and tender leaves, and thereby retarding their growth and eventually killing them. Remedies:—These are numerous, but the greater majority of them almost entirely worthless. Among those that have given the best satisfaction may be named: tobacco water, air-slaked lime and a kerosene emulsion. Tobacco water, prepared by steeping the leaves in cold water for a day or two, is very effective for a day or two after its application, but then it loses its effect. The lime has given very favorable results for a longer time, especially in a dry season. The kerosene emulsion, prepared by beating together one gallon of kerosene, one gallon of water and four pounds of bar soap, has also given good results for a limited time; but while the tobacco water stimulates the growth of the plant, the kerosene emulsion retards it, if applied frequently. It should be diluted with about ten-parts of water.

**THE CABBAGE PLANT LOUSE.**—This insect is closely allied to the plant lice infesting other plants. They are frequently seen on the cabbage at various seasons of the year, and inflict considerable damage to this crop. Remedies:—Tobacco water, made by steeping the leaves or stems in water, has done very satisfactory work, but the peculiar construction of the leaves makes it very difficult to apply. Pyrethrum powder applied with the bellows has also reduced the number of these insects; but among all the remedies tried at the New York Experimental Station the best results were obtained from the kerosene emulsion, described above for the turnip flea-beetle, diluted with sixty-four parts of water.

**THE CABBAGE MAGGOTS** are little white grubs which attack the roots of the cabbage plant, generally destroying the plants on which they feed. They have been effectually destroyed by

Prof. Cook with a kerosene emulsion composed of one quart soft soap, one gallon water and one quart kerosene. This he has applied to the roots without injury to them, while an emulsion half that strength proved fatal to the maggots.

**THE CURRANT WORM.**—This insect first makes its appearance shortly after the leaves of the currant bushes are out. The eggs from which the young caterpillars hatch are laid on the under side of the leaves, which accounts for their sudden appearance. White hellebore is the safest and best remedy known to destroy them; one tablespoon to three gallons of water, applied with a watering-can, has been found strong enough. It is claimed that a mulch of coal ashes between the rows materially lessens the liability of the bushes becoming infested with this insect.

**THE APPLE TREE BORERS.**—There are two different species injuring the trees of this Dominion, but as the same remedies are applicable for both we may consider them under one head. The attacks of these borers may be observed by closely examining the ground surrounding the base of the tree, to see if any sawdust made by their boring can be discovered, which will be a sure sign of their presence. Dried patches of bark on a young tree should also arouse suspicion and cause a closer examination by removing the dried portion with a knife and searching for the enemy. The tree will generally present an unthrifty appearance, and die in the course of time if badly infested. Remedy:—Examine the trees in fall, and cut out, or destroy by piercing with a wire, all the borers. A preventative is to paint the trunk and the larger branches with a soft soap paint in the first half of June and about the first week of July. The paint, which is prepared by diluting soft soap with a strong solution or washing soda till it has the consistency of ordinary paint, should be applied in the morning of a sunny day.

**THE OYSTER-SHELL BARK-LOUSE,** which is seen on the limbs of the apple tree in the form of small scales, about one-eighth of an inch long, can be best destroyed at the commencement of June, when the little lice have left the scale to search for some place to "settle down for life," by applying the soft-soap paint recommended for the borers. The kerosene emulsion described for the turnip flea beetle, a lime whitewash and ordinary oil, have also been applied with success, the preference being given in the order named. Scraping off the scales in winter, with a hoe or some similar instrument, has also proved a success. Great care should be exercised not to introduce them into the orchard with young trees.

**THE TENT CATERPILLAR.**—During this month these insects may be seen in myriads on some apple trees. They retreat to their nest or tent during the cooler part of the day and the night. Owing to this peculiarity they can easily be destroyed by removing and destroying their nest when they are at home, spraying the trees with Paris green or London purple; half a pound to a barrel of water destroys these as well as many other insects feeding on the leaves and fruit of the orchard.

**THE STRIPED CUCUMBER BEETLES.**—These insects have been very destructive in some localities. The parent insects, bugs nearly half an inch long, with three longitudinal stripes on their upper surface, appear early in the season, and frequently attack the plants of the cucumber