

Aphis in some form or other is the most persistent and perplexing of plant pests.

The green fly is the enemy of the softer kinds of vegetation. The tender body of the Aphis is instantly affected by conditions unfavourable to its life, and it is therefore easily killed; but its marvellous power of reproduction renders its extinction impossible, for in every instance a few escape, and very soon re-establish their race.

Two remedies against Aphis are hot water and tobacco smoke. In the case of a few small hard wooded pot plants, hot water is the best eradicator of Green Fly; but the water must in no case be more than 150° Fahrenheit. For soft textured plants 140° is the maximum allowable.

To dip plants in very hot water will be to cook them as well as the fly.

Early the next morning syringe the plants freely with soft water, and in course of an hour or so give air. Soft soap dissolved in water makes a cheap and effectual wash for exterminating all kinds of Aphis.

I would like to have given illustrations of the various kinds of Aphis, but must be content to describe them, giving some idea of the different species. The Bean Aphis, the Bean Plant Louse or Black Dolphin; Aphis Fabae, the female is wingless, the "pupa" or male, is black with greyish white mottlings, whilst the female is deep greenish black in colour. This insect commonly attacks the young shoots and tops of broad beans. It is well to cut off the young shoots and affected parts and burn them.

The Pea Siphon Aphis. Amongst the "Aphides" peculiar to vegetables, this is one of the most common. Here again the male is greenish winged and green tinted wingless female. These are not produced from eggs, but alive and developed. This insect is very destructive to the pea crops. With those brief notes of the Aphis, I will pass on to the fly.