

in spraying potatoes. It is claimed that it adheres better than the ordinary bordeaux. This mixture is thought, however, to be harder on the spray pump than the ordinary bordeaux. It has been used at the Central Experimental Farm, but no definite results have been obtained. The formula given above was prepared at the Central Experimental Farm, and experiments were made to determine the amount of soda necessary to neutralize the copper sulphate.

Water Core in Apples

A CORRESPONDENT at Cornwall asks the cause of water core in his Gideon apples. He has a great many of this variety and nearly all are affected.

We know of no one who has made a study of the cause or remedy for this condition. We have observed it in our Golden Sweets, the off year of bearing, when there were only a few specimens on the tree; and occasionally in wet seasons, in our Kings.

We referred the question to W. T. Macoun, of the Central Experimental Farm, who says in reply:

"The Gideon apple has been sold and planted to quite a large extent in the northern parts of Ontario and the province of Quebec, but although the tree is hardy and the fruit handsome it has proved a great disappointment owing to its becoming water-cored. There has been no study of the water-coring of apples, as far as I am aware, and no statement made as to the exact cause of it, but after sixteen years' experience with a great many varieties at the Central Experimental Farm we have been able to draw some conclusions. Apples of Russian origin are much more subject to water-core than apples of American origin. Apples showing Siberian crab parentage are more subject to water-core than others. Water-coring is evidently a physiological

injury caused by certain climatic conditions. Apples, such as Gideon, which water-core, should be picked early and disposed of early, as the injury increases as the fruit matures, and some Russian varieties become quite translucent, they are so badly affected."

Thinning Apples

EXPERIMENTS by Beach, of Geneva, N. Y., go to show that in seasons of very heavy crops, thinning, if done early, say within three or four weeks after the fruit sets, both increases the size and improves the color, but in cases of a small crop no benefit was perceptible.

In the main his method was to remove all wormy, knotty and otherwise undesirable fruits, and each cluster thinned to one fruit. The cost for a well loaded tree of average size he estimates at 50 cents.

Paint For Barns and Sheds

A SENSIBLE job for mild days toward spring is the application of a fresh coat of paint or whitewash to the farm buildings. Perhaps in no respect is the Canadian farmer and fruit grower more negligent than with the exterior appearance of his stables, his barns, his sheds, which are very commonly left unpainted and most untidy in appearance. Not only does this neglect expose the buildings to early decay, but it also exhibits a lack of taste on the part of the owner. For buildings sided up with planed lumber the regular white lead paint is of course the best, but for the many rough sheds and barns throughout the country a cheap paint or whitewash will work a wonderful revolution. This may be made by using just enough water to moisten the slaked lime, and then adding kerosene oil to thin it to a consistency of easy application with a whitewash or other large brush. A little color may be added if so desired. A quick way of covering large barns and sheds is by use of the spray pump. Windows