

OUTLINE OF WORK IN SPRAYING FOR 1893.



OUR letter of the 5th instant, asking about spraying for apple scab, etc., is received. We believe our experiments have shown the Bordeaux mixture to be one of our best fungicides. We used a dilute form of it with good results last season, and would recommend your fruit growers to use it, as follows: Ten lbs sulphate copper (blue vitriol) per 100 gal. water, and about the same weight fresh lime or a little less. Dissolve in separate vessels and mix only when ready for use, as it is best if stirred constantly until sprayed on the trees or plants. For apples, spray with the mixture once before bloom after growth starts. Spray once or twice immediately after bloom for codlin moth, adding the necessary amount of Paris green or London purple. Another spraying or two with insecticide added to the Bordeaux mixture, may usually be profitably applied.

For grapes spray with sulphate copper solution before buds start, using 4 lbs. per 100 gallons water, but no lime. After bloom spray with Bordeaux mixture trees as above, at intervals of ten days to two weeks, until fruit is size of large nuts, when it may be best to use carbonate copper and aqua ammonia solution lest the Bordeaux mixture spot the fruit with the lime and make it appear badly. Our experience of last season demonstrates the value of spraying and confirms our belief, that it has "come to stay."

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THE people of this city have at last had a surfeit of Keiffer pears. The numerous orchards that have been planted have been rapidly coming into bearing, and the city has been flooded. The Italian fruit vendors, whose stalls occupy every foot of available sidewalk space in eligible localities, and whose carts swarm like locusts in our streets, bought them freely because of their fine appearance, and the public bought them—that is to say, each pear buyer bought one and then hated himself for an hour for thus squandering his nickle. The writer does not believe they will sell for as much as apples five years hence, and he most devoutly hopes the general planting of them in the North will be stopped. In the South, where the finer pears do not flourish, they may be grown with propriety.—Rural New Yorker.

A FEW days ago, we went into the markets and bought of a commission merchant 13 baskets (5 pounds) of Catawba grapes at 15 cents per basket. We must confess to a guilty feeling at buying them so cheap. There is mighty little for the grower in a five-pound basket of grapes which sells for 15 cents, out of which freight and commission charges are to be paid.