

Question Drawer

Black Knot on Cherry and Plum.

1302. SIR.—Would you kindly inform me if spraying the trees with Bordeaux mixture is effectual, not only in keeping down but also in getting rid of the Knot until they are again affected by other trees. Also, how early should the spraying be commenced, and how often repeated?

Listowel.

A. J. COLLINS.

Reply by Prof. Lochhead, O. A. C., Guelph, Ont.:

It is quite within the power of the fruit grower not only to control but also to prevent the spread of the Black Knot. If careful spraying with Bordeaux mixture (4-4-40 formula) is carried on regularly the Knots will gradually disappear by breaking off. The disease is more profitably controlled by cutting off diseased parts and burning them in early spring, and by spraying with the Bordeaux twice or thrice in spring and summer (such is necessary for the prevention of the *brown rot* and the *shot hole fungus*). In districts where the Black Knot was formerly very injurious, but where cutting and spraying have been adopted, the disease has practically disappeared.

The best times to spray are: (1) When leaf buds are opening; (2) When fruit is formed; (3) Two weeks later. The spores of the Black Knot are mainly set free in early spring and in June, consequently the Bordeaux should be applied at these times at any rate to kill the germinating spores.

Lecanium Scale on Japanese Honeysuckle.

1303. SIR.—I enclose you some twigs of my Japan honeysuckle affected with some kind of scale. Could you tell me what it is?

A SUBSCRIBER.

Reply by Prof. Lochhead, O. A. C., Guelph, Ont.:

The dark brown scales on the Japanese honeysuckle sent me are *Lecanium Scale Insects*. Similar scales are often found in

both greenhouse and orchard plants. As a rule they lay eggs, are but single-brooded, and pass the winter in the half-grown condition. On cherry there is the cherry scale (*Lecanium Cerasifex*); on blackberries at Trenton last year the blackberry scale (*Lecanium Fitchi*); on greenhouse lemons, etc., the *Lecanium Hesperidum*; on currants the currant scale (*Lecanium Ribis*); on peach, maple, etc., the peach *Lecanium* (*L. Nigrofasciatum*); and on plums the New York plum scale (*Lecanium Prunusatri*). With the last named scale, the young pass the winter on the twigs, and begin to move in April to new feeding grounds on the newer twigs. Before the end of June these become full-grown, and begin egg-laying. In early August the young lice emerge from the eggs and crawl out on the leaves. In September they migrate back to the twigs, where they are to be found in winter clustered in rows on the under surface.

The life-history of the honeysuckle scale will likely be somewhat similar to that of the New York plum scale.

Millipedes Eating Strawberries.

1304. SIR.—Can you give me a remedy for the small brownish wire-worm that eats strawberries?

I do not mean the soft white grub that eats the plant, but the harder and smaller insect that eats the fruit itself.

By doing so, you would greatly oblige.

Montreal.

COLIN D. MORGAN.

Reply by Prof. Lochhead, O. A. C., Guelph, Ont.:

The hard, wiry, worm-like creatures which you send me are millipedes, and are sometimes mistaken for wire-worms. In England, they are often called "False Wire-worms," and with us "Galley-worms." They do not belong to the insects, but to the Myriapods. They never have wings,