

before and while the trees are in bloom, and be performed morning and evening, when the beetles are more sluggish than in the heat of the day. A further method is to lay pieces of board about the base of the trees and each morning go around and collect the beetles which have found them a convenient shelter during the chill hours of the night. Whatever plan is adopted, it is all important that all fallen fruit should be daily gathered up and destroyed before the grubs have left them to enter the earth.

This insect attacks apples, pears, and cherries also, but is most abundant on plums.

FUNGUS DISEASES AFFECTING THE PLUM.

PLUM LEAF-RUST (*Puccinia pruni*). Some years this disease is very common in many parts of Ontario. It appears as small reddish or brown spots dotted all over the under surface of the leaves and so abundant in some cases as to almost cover the entire surface. On examination these spots are found to consist of a fine reddish brown powder, the spores of the fungus. Clean culture is recommended.

PLUM SCAB (*Cladosporium carpophilum*). This disease is very common on Plum-trees. It is more common on the Wild Plum than on the cultivated species, and hence the danger of having Wild Plums near the orchard. The brownish or olive colored spots appear on the fruit a short time before ripening; these spots run together and sometimes cover the surface of the fruit. Spraying with Bordeaux mixture, the same as for Apple Scab, is recommended.

PLUM POCKETS (*Exoascus pruni*). A fairly common disease of the Plum in Ontario. The "pockets" are quite different in shape from the normal plums, being somewhat roughly oblong bodies of about an inch in length. The fungus attacks the ovaries of the plum; these swell rapidly, the soft tissue of the fruit becoming very spongy, and there is no development of stone. When mature the outside is covered with a whitish bloom. It is a perennial, living from year to year in the young growth of the tree and proceeding thence in spring into young shoots and ovaries. Cutting and burning the affected branches and trees is the only sure way of exterminating the disease.

BROWN ROT (*Sclerotinia fructigena*), Figs. 42 and 43. This is the most injurious disease of the Plum. The infested fruit becomes rotten, then gradually dries up, forming a shrivelled mass which usually hangs on the tree all winter. The surface of diseased fruits is covered with small brownish tufts which contain the spores. These spores, whether on the ground or on the tree, are blown by the wind to the young fruit, where the spores germinate and start fresh rot. By removing the diseased fruits from the tree and ploughing under those that fall to the ground the disease will be greatly lessened. Spraying with Bordeaux mixture after the young fruit has set will also keep the fungus in check.