

(3) Add one quarter pint heavy corn syrup and a tablespoonful of glycerine, then stir thoroughly.

(4) Add one eighth ounce saccharine and stir thoroughly.

(5) Pour this poison solution over twenty quarts of clean oats and mix thoroughly so that each grain is coated. Prepare the poisoned grain twenty to forty-eight hours before using. For mixing small quantities an ordinary galvanized wash tub is convenient. For larger quantities a tight, smooth box may be used, and the mixing done with a spade.

(6) A teaspoonful of poisoned oats should be placed in each gopher hole on clean, hard ground, letting it scatter slightly as it falls (placed in this way it will not endanger the stock and birds). Do not put the poisoned grain on the loose dirt of the mound or of the holes. Each quart of the poisoned grain is sufficient to treat about sixty holes.

In case poisoning is being carried on near buildings where poultry is kept, or if it is desired or necessary to avoid endangering bird life the poisoned grain should be placed some little distance down the gopher hole.

For poisoning the mole or pocket gopher, another method has been used. In one case, a grain of strychnine was put in a raisin, and the raisin was then dropped in the runway, which can readily be located by the difference in the firmness of the soil. Entrance to the thoroughfare used by the pocket gopher may be made by means of a sharp, round stick, the poisoned raisin inserted, and the opening covered. It was impossible to secure satisfactory results from this method, as the poison seemed too frequently to fail to reach its destination, as the mounds still made their appearance, though not in such large numbers.

OTHER METHODS OF DESTRUCTION.

The methods of shooting, trapping, snaring, drowning and suffocating are not very effective, as they take so much time, or are expensive; but when it is kept in mind that an average gopher litter is eight or ten, and that one gopher can easily destroy two or three bushels of grain, it will be seen that any method that results in the destruction of even one of these pests is to be recommended.

SHOOTING.

Shooting is an effective and sometimes exciting method of destroying the gopher, but it is rather slow and, in comparison with the poisoning method as outlined above, very expensive.

TRAPPING.

Trapping is a method which should be adopted where poisoning is not practicable, as in poultry runs, or to destroy the wanderers that come in from beyond the farm boundaries to the small fields about the house and gardens, after the main crop of gophers has been destroyed by poisoning. Traps must of course be visited frequently for emptying and resetting, as new victims are caught; but even so, a boy not otherwise employed can usefully occupy his time in looking after a few dozen