

The various stages through which the larger insects pass place them within our power at some period of their existence. The butterfly may float beyond the reach of harm, but in the caterpillar or the chrysalis state it can be dealt with effectually. A knowledge of the life history of injurious insects will suggest what is to be done and when, so that often by simple treatment at the right time we may compass their destruction.

The expense of preparing mixtures and washes may be in some degree lessened by economy of application. A drenching board, fitted on a firm frame, should be provided in every place where plant growing is carried on to any extent. The board should slope from a resting ridge at the base. The plant in its pot may be laid on the board, with the bottom of the pot against the resting ridge, and a pail should be put to catch the liquid used as it drains from the plant after syringing. Every general washing or fumigating should be followed by another at an interval of from a week to ten days, because, although the first operation may kill every insect, there will be many living eggs left, and these renew the race, and very soon bring the plants into as bad a state as ever, unless consigned to a happy despatch as their parents were.

In using a mixture or preparation for the first time, it is advisable to try it on one plant only, and that, of course, the worst in the collection affected. If the preparation is too strong or too weak, the truth will be declared by the state of the plant within twenty-four hours; thus a little caution may save a great loss. For we have not only the strength of the medicine to consider, but the management of the patient before and after it is administered.

It is above all things important to be thorough in the cleansing of plants.

In the time I have at my command, I can only notice a few of the "Garden Pests" and I will begin with one of the most frequent and troublesome of plant foes.