

This strawberry is thus described by Mr. M. Crawford, the great Ohio strawberry cultivator:—"Color, bright glossy red; texture, firm and quality good. The trusses are large and spreading, the blossoms bisexual, and the plants dark green, strong, stocky and perfectly healthy." He adds, "What I have seen of the Parker Earle corroborates my former opinion that it is an acquisition."

PLUM LEAF OR SHOT-HOLE FUNGUS.

DURING this last season much curiosity was awakened by the peculiar appearance of many of the leaves of our plum and cherry trees. They were full of small round holes, for which there was no apparent cause. We looked in vain to find an insect, to which the damage might be attributed; but the mystery is explained by the following article by Prof. Scribner, on the fungus *Septoria Cerasina*, in *Orchard and Garden*. This fungus is very generally distributed throughout the States east of the Mississippi. It attacks the foliage, and although not regarded as a serious

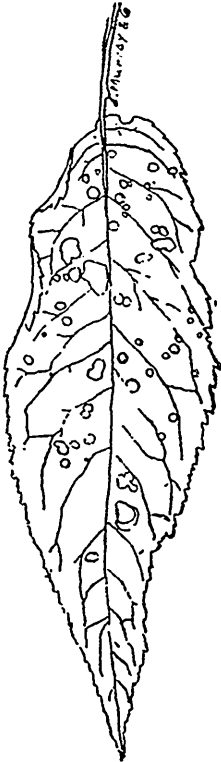


FIG 70.—LEAF-SPOT DISEASE OF THE CHERRY. A SPOTTED AND DISCOLORED LEAF.

pest, it often inflicts considerable injury both to the cherry and plum, by interfering with the proper functions of the leaves, or by causing these to drop prematurely, sometimes as early as the first of August. The leaves attacked show, at first, scattered here and there over the surface, dark purple spots, visible on both sides, varying from 1-24 to 1-8 of an inch in diameter. After a brief period it will be noticed that the tissue covered by some of these spots has become dead and brown in color. Such spots usually have their margins clearly defined, and are most often circular in outline. Sometimes this dead tissue drops out from the leaf, leaving a clear cut, round hole, giving the leaf the appearance of having been perforated by shot holes, hence the name sometimes given to the disease, mentioned above.

If we examine one of the brown spots under a lens, we will usually detect upon the under surface one to several very minute black points. These points are the fruits of the fungus—little capsules, within which the spores of the fungus are produced in great abundance. They, the spores, are very slender, many times longer than broad, and quite transparent. They are usually divided by one or more cross-walls into two or more cells. These spores serve to propagate the fungus; each cell in every spore being capable of producing a new