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SOME INSECT ENEMIES OF THE ROSE.

So many inquiries have been made recently for some efficient and available means of combating the common, yet at the same time very injurious insects that prey upon the rose, that we have thought it might be acceptable to our readers if we should devote some space to the consideration of the habits, appearance and ravages of these insects, at the same time giving such suggestions as we may be able to offer for their destruction.

The *Rose Slug* has been very abundant for several years, and judging from the pertinacity it manifests in the work of destroying the foliage of our roses year after year, we have little to hope for in the way of relief from the labors of its natural enemies. This insect is one of the Sawflies, is known to Entomologists by the name of *Selandria roseæ*, and is described by Harris as a small fly of a deep and shining black color, the body of which is in the male a little more than three twentieths of an inch long, and in the female about one-fifth of an inch, while the wings expand about two-fifths of an inch. They come out of the ground during the month of June, at various times, not all at once. The females do not

fly much, but may be found during the day resting on the rose leaves, and when touched they draw up their legs and fall to the ground. When about to lay their eggs they turn a little on one side, unsheath their saws, and thrust them obliquely into the skin of the leaf, depositing in each incision a single egg. The eggs hatch in from ten days to a fortnight, so that the young slugs can usually be found on the leaves about the twentieth of June. These have a round head with a black dot on each side of it, and eleven pairs of short legs. The upper surface of the body is green, paler on the sides, yellowish underneath, and the whole is soft, with a transparent, jelly-like appearance.

These slugs eat the upper surface of the leaves, leaving the veins and skin; thus giving the leaves a skeletonized appearance. When they are numerous, which has been the case now for several years, there will not be a green leaf remaining, and the whole rose-garden will look as if scorched by fire. When these slugs have attained their full growth they drop to the ground, burrow into the earth to the depth of an inch or so, form little cells in which