

females, and reach maturity in ten or twelve days, when they commence to give birth to living young, producing about two daily for two or three weeks, after which the older ones die. The young locate themselves about their parents as closely as they can stow themselves, and they also mature and become mothers in ten or twelve days, and are as prolific as their predecessors.

"The leaves of trees infested by these insects become distorted and twisted backwards, often with their tips pressing against the twig from which they grow, and they thus form a covering for the aphides, protecting them from the rain. An infested tree may be distinguished some distance by the bending back of the leaves and young twigs. It is stated that the scab on the fruit of the apple tree often owes its origin to the punctures of these plant lice. This species, which was originally imported from Europe, is now found in apple orchards all over the United States and Canada.

Remedies.—Scraping the dead bark off the trees during winter, and washing them with a solution of soft soap and soda, would be beneficial by destroying the eggs. Syringing the trees about the time the buds are bursting, with strong soap-suds and weak lye, or tobacco water, the latter made by boiling one pound of the rough stems or leaves in a gallon of water, will destroy a large number of the young lice. A frost occurring after a few days of warm weather will kill millions of them; in the egg state the insects can endure any amount of frost, but the young aphids quickly perishes when the temperature falls below the freezing point."

The author describes a number of parasites which feed upon and destroy the aphids; nine species of the Lady-bird are described and figured; also Lace-winged or Golden-eyed Flies, and the larvæ of the Syrphus flies. The

latter were frequently found on the lice infested leaves, last season, and were supposed by many to be the real cause of the destruction of the fruit.

ROOT PRUNING.

The experiments were made on the apple and pear. A vigorous apple tree, eight or ten years old, which had scarcely made any fruit buds, has done best when about half the roots were cut in one season and half three years later, going half way round on opposite sides in one year and finishing at the next pruning, working two feet underneath to sever downward roots. It has always answered well also to cut from such trees all the larger and longer roots about two and a half feet from the stem, leaving the smaller and weaker ones longer and going half way round, as already stated. The operation was repeated three or four years later by extending the cut circle a foot or two further away from the tree. By this operation unproductive fruit trees became thickly studded with fruit spurs, and afterwards bore profusely. The shortening of the roots has been continued in these experiments for twenty years with much success, the circle of roots remaining greatly circumscribed. The best time for the work has been found to be in the latter part of August and the beginning of September, when growth has nearly ceased and while the leaves are yet on the trees.—*London Garden.*

BAGGING TOMATOES.—Mr. E. S. Carman, of the *Rural New Yorker*, experimented last season with bagging tomatoes, and found that those so treated were the most brilliantly colored, and when cooked the least acid tomatoes he had ever seen or eaten. It was also observed that the bagged tomatoes ripened more evenly, and about the stem as well as elsewhere. Against the rot, however, bagging afforded no protection.