

in the soil in the larval stage for the most part, development to the adult taking place in early spring. Eggs are laid in slits on the leaves of the plant and the young larvae issue to commence feeding on the leaf tissue. The illustration given below shows the characteristic work of another species of thrips upon oat leaves. The damage to onion-leaves is similar, and results in a sapping of the vitality of the plant by a process of sucking, causing a "silvery" appearance and a diminution in the growth of the onion. The life-history of an individual thrips, from the egg to the adult, is rapid; hence several generations may be produced in a season. Warm, dry weather fosters their development, but rain and cold weather undoubtedly checks them.



Work of thrips on leaves of oats, enlarged

Control.

Water Spray. In a small way, frequent and well-directed sprays of ordinary water will go far in reducing injury.

Soap Spray. Any spray containing either whale-oil soap, soft soap, or any of the non-caustic neutral soaps may be used. If applied without adding nicotine-sulphate or any other insecticide, these soaps, each individually, may be used at the ratio of 1 lb. to 8 imperial gallons of water. The soap is first dissolved in a small quantity of warm water and then added to the full amount.

Nicotine-Sulphate-Soap Spray. If standard 40 per cent. nicotine sulphate is used, soap may be added in lessened quantity to that required for a straight soap spray, and is included to serve as a "spreader."

The following formula is recommended to obtain the most satisfactory results in commercial plantations: 40 per cent. nicotine sulphate, $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ pint; whale-oil soap, 4 to 5 lb.; water, 80 (imperial) gallons. Mix in barrels of 40 gallons each.