

ADULT FLY SUPREME; MUST COMBAT LARVAE

How Shall World Fight This Dirtiest of Insects—Many Practical Methods of Warfare

The house fly is the dirtiest of all vermin. It visits the filthiest places imaginable and then distributes the filth over our food. It carries the germs of typhoid, infantile diarrhoea, and other intestinal diseases, and, probably, assists in the spread of tuberculosis. Hence, it is not merely very dirty but exceedingly dangerous as well. Means of protection against flies are common; doors and windows may be screened, fly papers, traps, "swatters," and poison may be employed to kill those that do enter the house. But these purely defensive measures are not enough. The war must be carried into the enemy's country; the fly must be exterminated.

Clean Up Always
The only way to exterminate the fly is to attack it in the larval or maggot form. Flies lay their eggs in manure or garbage; ten days from the time of hatching the maggots emerge as winged insects, fully equipped for distributing disease-breeding bacteria. But a city with clean backyards and clean stable premises would be a flyless city, for it would have abolished the flies' breeding grounds. The plan of campaign against these annoying and dangerous pests is thus plain: we must clean up, not once or twice a year, but all the time.

City by-laws should require all owners of stables to keep manure in a fly-tight, covered box and to have it removed at least twice a week. A similar law should apply to the disposal of garbage. Persons with dirty back yards should be prosecuted. Privies should be abolished wherever possible and, where allowed, should be kept continually disinfected and be cleaned twice weekly. The piling of refuse in disgusting and unsightly "dumps" should never be permitted. If the town cannot afford an incinerator, the refuse should be buried.

Borax Treatment
Experiments have shown that the fly larvae in manure and other refuse may be killed by treatment with borax, one pound of borax being sufficient to treat 16 cubic feet or nearly 13 bushels of manure. If used in larger quantities, the borax may prove injurious to plants. The borax should be sifted over the manure, particularly near the edges of the pile, which should then be sprinkled with four gallons of water. This treatment will kill 98 to 99 per cent of all the larvae in the manure. At 11 cents per pound for borax, it is estimated that the cost would be 2 cents per horse per day. This cost could be very greatly reduced by employing calcined Colemanite instead of borax, if the former were imported in large quantities. One pound of Colemanite will treat 11 bushels of manure and its larvicidal action is as effective as that of borax.

INFLATION OF TIRES
Over-inflation is Much Better Than Under-inflation
In a contribution to the records of the Society of Automobile Engineers, an expert and one of the foremost authorities on tire matters gives some very valuable advice to the car user as to how best to meet the problems of tire care. He says very positively that under-inflation is the thing to watch out for and guard against—not over-inflation. If it is found necessary for comfort and protection to carry a lower pressure than that recommended, it should be done by all means, he explains, but it should at the same time be plainly understood that one always takes a chance with tires by so doing, and the practice never can be excused by considerations of temperature of any other minor causes tending to increase the pressure. If for any reason the pressure must be lowered, it can be done and durability maintained only by the use of larger tires.

In fact, this authority says that it is practically impossible to hurt tires by over-inflation, providing they have not previously been damaged by over-loading and under-inflation. They are built with a very high factor of safety, and in tests they have been inflated to as high as 300 pounds per square inch pressure without anything harmful happening to the tire, the rim finally giving away. This at once nails a belief that is quite general that high pressure in a tire renders it a dangerous thing. The bursting pressure is seven times the pressure which is recommended.

Of course, there are limits to which the inflation should be carried for comfortable riding, and obviously a too highly inflated tire defeats the purpose for which it is used. The tire makers have set down pressures which are the best compromise between the lack of resilience on the one hand and under-inflation on the other.

Popular among touring veils is one of white hemstitched chiffon, having a shadow net mask over the face. The net is white with black spider webs upon it.

When washing knives never allow the handles to soak in the water, as it not only loosens them, but turns them yellow.

To clean a sink quickly, dip a wad of paper into some paraffin and rub the sink with it. Rinse well with warm water.

The peak of Teneriff, in the Canary Islands, throws a shadow stretching across the sea for a distance of fifty miles.

A field near the house fenced to hold any kind of stock is just about as handy and essential as a barn during the summer.

BEST BREEDING HOGS

Use Only Best For Next Generation, is Hog Raiser's Advice

William Gilbert of Alberta writes as follows: During times when hogs are high in price, there is generally a tendency to jump into the business too quickly and too heavily. The purchaser is too anxious to consider the future, than to consider the merits of the stock he is buying. One of the greatest detriments to the hog business affecting both the breeder and the purchaser is the buying of young immature brood sows as the majority of buyers are not sufficiently insistent in demanding size and age. I ship myself numerous young sows against my better judgment at the request of buyers for young cheap stock and I frankly admit that we breeders do not raise our champions from immature sows or boars.

It takes size, age, bone and constitution to raise the quality of stock which pays, and a very serious drawback is using the type of young boars which the majority of buyers are satisfied with. It is an injustice to the animal as well as to the breed to use him at five or six months old, his vitality is checked before it is properly developed, and the boar is speedily considered worthless. If buyers were more particular as to the size, age, etc., we would soon find more of the high quality quick-growing kind of hogs.

Another point in buying a hog is that the breeder as a rule quotes three or four prices. You might ask why is this? As a rule the average buyer will select the lowest price and expect the same quality of hog quoted at the higher price; while the buyer who demands a good quality hog at a good price, generally gets satisfaction as he demands the best and is willing to pay extra for it, and the breeder will very often go out of his way to cater to this kind of business. The quality is an important factor in fixing the price, it takes money and experience to improve quality in any stock, so if the standard of the farm hog is to be improved, we have got to mate for size, bone vitality, prolific breeding, easy feeding, and then there is money in the hog business at low prices.

SMALL WESTERN FARMS

Farmers Will Have To Get Dual-Purpose Cattle

With the rapid settlement of the Western prairies and the gradual occupation of our vacant lands, the western farmer is getting more and more confined to his own holding. Land values also have increased at a rapid rate and economies in management are now practised on the average farm that would have been superfluous years ago. The unprofitable cow "boarder" is being displaced and farmers are slowly, but surely being forced into a system of live stock husbandry that would have been considered much too complicated when our country was in the earlier stages of its development. The plain demand has to be made on our cows to give the farmer more than one source of revenue. This refers more particularly to farmers on limited areas of land, who, in the end, will constitute the majority in the West. Those who have ample free range or leased land available can afford to devote their energies strictly to beef production, but the other class must ultimately drift into dairying as well at least in Northern Alberta and the irrigated sections in the South. At the same time, they will never be able to ignore entirely the beef making qualities of their herd. It is this happy but exceedingly difficult demand that the movement in dual-purpose shorthorn breeding is endeavoring to supply.

GARDEN SUGGESTIONS

Fertilize tomatoes in the hill. They prefer a rich soil, and if you reside in the country and keep a few hens you will find that a few cleanings from the yard prove excellent for securing luxuriant growth and perfecting of the fruit. If the soil is stirred frequently there is no need to worry much about dry weather. Furnish stakes for the tomatoes early. A wind storm may work havoc otherwise; besides, you do not want them lying on the ground, the fruit being more susceptible to rot.

POTATOES NEGLECTED

Good Care Means Far Better Crops of Tubers

The potato crop often is very much neglected in Canada. By the middle of summer the tops are badly eaten by bugs, and what foliage is left is hidden by weeds. Large crops will not be obtained under conditions like these. If the soil is kept as moist as possible by thorough cultivation, the tops kept in condition by spraying for the potato beetle and late blight, the grower will be well rewarded for his pains by the much larger crop he will get, unless the season is very unfavorable. The greatest development of tubers takes place when the ground is moist. If the plants can be brought through the month of August without being badly injured, the crop will increase rapidly in the cooler and moister month of September. It was shown in an experiment that there was an increase at the rate of 119 bushels marketable potatoes per acre during the month of September.

Tips From the Gardener

Porch and window boxes often begin to look shabby, simply because the supply of plant food in the soil has been largely exhausted. An application of manure water should be made once or twice each week during the late summer, but the liquid must first be diluted until it is about the color of weak tea. A little pulverized sheep manure from the seed store will serve for making this simple but highly effective fertilizer. Some commercial humus spread over the top of the box will also help.

WHY SPRAY TWICE?

Experiments Show Conclusively the Value of This Method

Prof. Blair of Nova Scotia writes: In order to gather information as to the value of the early sprays as compared with the later ones a series of tests in which plots were sprayed before, and twice after the blossoms in 1915, were compared with those sprayed once before the blossoms and twice after. In one series of experiments the one spray before the blossoms was put on about midway between the first at Beryl, which was put on just after the leaf buds were nicely opened May 17th, and the second spray put on just before the first petals opened May 31st, or just before or about the time the blossom clusters were showing pink. This we have called a midway spray. In the other test the one spray before blossoms was put on just before the petals of the flower clusters opened.

There was a difference of from two to three per cent, only in favor of two sprays before the blossoms. The two most important sprays were the ones just before and just after blossoming. From results obtained it would seem that should the period between the opening of the leaf buds and the opening of the petals of the flower clusters be short owing to weather conditions, one spray may be sufficient to give practically clean fruit, but should this period be extended two sprays should be given.

A study of results from soluble sulphur plots sprayed at different dates indicates that the early spray was quite an important one, and that the two applications before the blossoms were advisable. On the day following the application of the midway spray a rainfall of about quarter of an inch, as was the case with the spray after blossoming, which showed that soluble sulphur is not an adhesive spray, and that a heavy, quick rainfall may reduce its fungicidal value and bring about increased burning, as was the case with these sprays. It would seem, therefore, that it is wise to make two applications before blossoms; first after the leaf buds open, and second just before the blossoms open, which dates correspond with those advised for the best control of insects.

RUSH GRAIN THROUGH

Speedy, Efficient Methods Used in Giant Elevators

Grain out of condition has three degrees of classification as to its condition, they being tough, damp, and wet. The shrinkage which all these out-of-condition cars suffer on being dried is ascertained at Port Arthur or Fort William by a test machine, in which a weighed sample of the car to be dried is boiled in oil, and the steam from the moisture in the grain is passed through a cooling chamber and condensed, and by its quantity telling exactly the amount of moisture steam from the moisture in the grain and which amount, in weight, is deducted from the weight of the car being dried. When the car has been unloaded, word is given to the weighmen, both elevator and government, the latter one keeping constant watch on the scales, of which there are ten in each unit, while they are in use.

On word being received that the grain from the car, the number and grade of which they have already received, is all unloaded, the weighing takes place and the weight stamped automatically on a strip of thick paper on which is inscribed the car number, scale unloaded on, and name of weighman in charge, and these, after the weight has been recorded in the daily reports, are filed away for future reference. All the weigh tickets are numbered consecutively, which as to the absolute correctness of the weighing outward on vessels—telling without fail the exact number of drafts placed on any vessel. The exact identity of the grain is now lost and only its equivalent in grade and weight is guaranteed for delivery.

WEEDS ON CITY LOTS

Drastic Action Demanded to Eliminate This Menace to Agriculture

At a meeting of the Commission of Conservation stress was laid upon the increasing prevalence of weeds. Earnest pleas were made for action to overcome this detriment to agriculture. While farming interests are exerting themselves to eliminate this serious handicap, they have just cause to complain of the prevalence of weeds on city lots and subdivided land upon the outskirts of cities and towns. This land, once forming some of the best farms, offers ideal conditions for the growth of weeds, and they flourish in great luxuriance. The owners in many cases are non-residents, and, consequently, do not appreciate the condition of their property.

Municipal officers and road-masters should be given the authority, and be compelled, to have weeds cut upon vacant property, the cost of doing the work to become a legal charge against the land. The majority of owners would be willing to pay the cost of weed cutting, and would appreciate the service. It is hoped that action will be taken, so that vacant urban property may no longer be regarded as a dangerous weed menace.

Carrying a Stepladder



A handle, fixed on the side of a stepladder so that the ends balance, overcame the difficulty ordinarily experienced in carrying it. It is worth while to spend sufficient time in fastening the handle to insure that it will be at the proper place.—From *Ponder Mechanics*.

KEEP COSTLY CAR WELL

Automobile Responds to Good Attention—Saving Money

Automobile owners in general would save money and get more personal satisfaction by giving stricter supervision to the appearance of their cars, inasmuch as their necessary periodic cleaning and polishing is concerned. Primarily too many cars are not washed often enough, which is not favorable to the car. It is soon dirty, looks twice as old as it really is, and the owner's interest in it dwindles. The clean car is dynamic. It attracts attention even of the owner and his family. It is always kept in better running condition than a dirty one, as on a clean car the loose nut, the broken spring leaf or the other parts that need attention are more quickly detected. With mud cleared off the axles, springs and grease cups, the owner's attention is drawn to the latter, which gets more attention than otherwise probably would be given them.

Furthermore, the piano-like finish of the new motor car may be preserved for a much longer time than is usually the case if proper care is taken in its cleaning. Much of its lustre or lack of same is due to the manner of polishing it from time to time. To expect a highly polished car to keep its lustre indefinitely after being used in all sorts of weather is asking the impossible. However, reasonable care can do much toward keeping the body lustre like that of a new car, as the market affords numerous inexpensive cleaners and polishers which show remarkably good results. Why not the same care with your car as with your shoes or good furniture? While a pair of shoes with unprotected leather may mean only a few dollars' loss, a car body is worth considerably more, and then, as with the shoes, the owner's shiftless methods are reflected if it is unpolished.

MAKE WETHERS OF LAMBS

One of the greatest losses in the sheep business comes from the lambs sent to market without having been castrated. The operation is extremely simple, and should not be neglected. The ram develops sexual characteristics at about three months of age. They then become restless, worry the rest of the flock, and fight among themselves. They cease to make satisfactory gains, and prevent the others from so doing.

Experimental feeding of two lots of 12 head each, one lot castrated, the other entire, each receiving the same feed and treatment, resulted in 900 pounds weight for the rams, while the wethers weighed 1,020 pounds. Another experiment showed that wether lambs gained in 60 days 2 1/4 per cent in live weight and four per cent in dressed weight more than did the ram lambs. Rams become coarse, and their increase in weight comes in the low-priced parts of the carcass. Wether lambs, on the other hand, develop more in loin and back, the region of high-priced cuts.

Protecting Trees From Borers

Apple trees may be protected from the flat-headed borer by painting the trunks with a heavy application of paint that will remain unbroken for two or three months and keep the female from laying her eggs. Pure white lead and raw linseed oil, mixed rather thick, will not injure the trees, and when applied to young, smooth bark will form a protective coat during the egg-laying season. Before painting, however, the earth should

be removed from the base of the tree for a depth of from three to four inches. The surface of the trunk thus exposed should be first scraped and painted and the earth then replaced. This is necessary, for the beetle occasionally lays her eggs under instead of above the ground.

Trying Out New Crops

If trying out a new crop for the first time, alfalfa, sweet clover, corn, or anything else, try out on a small scale the first year. An acre will tell what the crop will be like. It is quite possible that you will not use best cultural methods in preparing land and in sowing first crop. But even for this small area get the best information on the crop before undertaking to grow same, and most important, get seed of a hardy strain and most adaptable to climate. Southern grown seed will usually spoil failure.

Wide Canadian Forests

Merchantable timber of Canada is distributed by millions of acres, as follows: Nova Scotia, 5; New Brunswick, 9; Quebec, 130; Ontario, 70; British Columbia, 100; Saskatchewan, 100. The grand total of forest area is 414,000,000 acres for the Dominion.

Many a man doesn't realize what he is up to until he is called down.

Premises should be kept free from rubbish inside and out. Rubbish heaps are dangerous.

Yet there must be some pleasure in being a model citizen.

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