

nuts good size and sweet—all good points. The Cosubale comes next, and then the Merle. The American Sweet is too well known to require description. These are all grafted trees, as seedlings are very different as to fruit, and should be planted and treated the same as the walnut. The market, however, for this fruit is more limited, but for family use it is unsurpassed for flavor or nourishment, whether roasted or used as a vegetable or as a stuffing for fowls.

From a commercial standpoint these nut bearing trees are not only valuable for their fruit but also for their wood. Everybody is acquainted with fine walnut furniture, which is very expensive, and especially what is known as French walnut veneering. Pecan timber, especially, is susceptible of a very high polish, having a fine grain, and is exceedingly handsome for finishing either furniture or paneling in housework.

I have endeavored to obtain the exact figures of importations into Oregon of all kinds of nuts, but have failed. The various wholesale merchants, however, who deal in them, tell me that between 300,000 and 400,000 pounds would cover very near the amount.

In conclusion I wish to say that I have demonstrated to my own satisfaction that the English walnut will do well here and bear fruit in paying quantities, and hope I have been sufficiently explicit in this paper to induce others to profit from my experience. If you cannot or will not plant a grove, try a few trees, and I am confident you will never regret having planted the English walnut.

**THE DEAD SPOT OF THE BARK DISEASE**

More inquiries and complaint reach this office as to the canker or dead spot of the bark disease attacking the pear tree, than concerning any other pest affecting our fruit orchards. This disease is quite widespread of late years on the Northwest Pacific coast. During winter and early spring careful inspection of the trees will show on those affected small spots or patches of the smooth bark blackened and dead; these spots apparently starting from a size no larger than a small bird shot, and extending in a few weeks or months to a size several inches in length to about one-half that in width. These dead spots often extend entirely around the branch or the body of the tree attacked and kill it outright, though as a general thing it only seams up its surface with the dead and shrunken patches commonly observed on the trees affected. Observation leads to the belief that the disease is highly contagious, and spreads from tree to tree in the orchard. Prof. Pierce, delegated by the Department of Agriculture at Washington, D. C., to make a special study of this disease upon this coast, is of the opinion that it is of fungoid origin. He recom-

mends that sprays of sulphate of copper (bluestone) be used as a preventative measure. No very marked success in this direction, however, has attended the use of this or other fungicides either here or in Oregon.

It is a well known fact that different varieties have different resistant qualities, and while the Boswick Codlin, Gravenstein, Baldwin, D. Mignons, the Hyslop Crab, and others of the apple are very subject to this disease, some other sorts are comparatively free from its attacks. Annually spraying the orchard in winter, and good care and cultivation, insuring a strong, clean, vigorous growth of tree, is the great secret of success in the treatment and of orchard work in general, and will give the greatest exemption from loss from this and other fruit tree pests.

Yet one specific method for the prevention of the evil effects of this disease seems to have given good results, viz: the slitting of the bark process, which is as follows: As soon as these newly deadened bark patches are observed, at the beginning of the growing season, slit the bark with the point of a knife, beginning in the sound, healthy bark above, and extending to and in that below the dead patches—these slits to be about one fourth of an inch apart. In a short time new wood and bark will form and completely cover and obliterate the dead patches; otherwise a scar remains for months or years. If a strong alkaline and soap solution wash or other good spray solution is used on the trees in the winter season, it will leave the bark with a clean, bright surface, so that the dead spots will be quickly and plainly seen, when the above treatment will insure against any damage or harm to the main trunk or branches from the disease; though, of course, if the smaller shoots and twigs are attacked, as is often the case, little can be done in this way to obviate its effects on those parts of the tree.

J. F. CASS,

Sec'y State Board of Horticulture.

Tacoma, Washington.

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