

**TOBACCO AS AN INSECTICIDE.**

For some years I have been using and recommending tobacco dust as an all-round insect destroyer. I use it in the greenhouse for lice, in the open ground for the cucumber beetle, plant lice and worms of all kinds, and sometimes in the hen-house for lice, etc. It is surely one of the swiftest of insecticides we can apply, almost or fully equal to buhach. If sifted or scattered over currant bushes the currant bushes will be free from the pest within an hour less. If blown into the heart of cabbage plants it means the end of the green worm.

Applied in the same way to the nests of caterpillars—and the trees all around us at this time are full of them—especially in the morning or evening, when the worms are all at home, it will clear them out for good in less than an hour. In short, I hardly know what worm or soft-bodied insect the contact with tobacco dust would not speedily kill. I believe it will even put an end to the potato bug. It is distasteful to many hard-shell beetles also, as may be seen by the fact that with heavy applications we can drive away the cucumber beetle and perhaps the squash bug.

The flea beetle, unfortunately, is not so easily conquered, even if it does not like the tobacco smell. Surely tobacco dust must be considered a most excellent insecticide, and it is not expensive. In some cases, perhaps, the sweepings of numerous cigar factories in cities will do, and can be had for the hauling. I think every soil tiller should keep it on hand. I have usually applied tobacco dust with the bare hands, scattering it freely over the bushes and plants, and around cucumber, melon and squash vines even an inch on the ground.

The stuff is worth nearly the full price asked for it, \$3 a barrel or so, as a fertilizer, and I have not felt the necessity of using it in a particularly economical manner.

For cabbage and caterpillar nests hand bellows of some kind are almost a necessary, as we want to blow the dust well among the leaves and webs. The ordinary cheap hand bellows offered for sale by seedsmen and hardware stores will do very well for cabbage.

**HORTICULTURAL NOTES.**

E. Messerly, of fertile Wenatchee, has ordered a Montieth evaporator for the purpose of taking care of his crop of prunes. The expense and

risk of shipping east is too great to make the business safe. The evaporator will have a capacity of two tons per every 24 hours. His orchard will produce between 80 and 100 tons of green fruit this year.

Tendrils are vine supports, and the rule is that growing vines thrive better if fastened. Garden peas, sweet peas, the grape, the clematis, etc., all thrive better if the tendrils are amply stayed and are not swaying and clutching at the air.

The tendril is an abortive flower or fruit. Expert gardeners remove the surplus by pinching them off. It aids in the formation of more perfect bloom and fruit.

From now until September is the time for budding the plum, cherry and peach, commencing with the wood that ripens first.

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