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BENTON, BOSSIER PARISH, LA., THURSDAY, APRIL 13, 1911.

NUMBER 15.

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WAYS TO KILL BOLL WEEVILS

Chain Cultivator Has Proved to Be Effective Weapon.

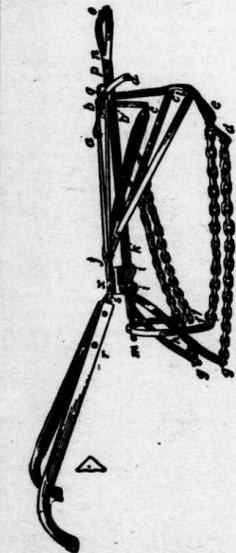
PATENTED BY GOVERNMENT.

Here Are Complete Directions Which Will Enable Any Blacksmith to Construct the Machine—It Drags Infested Squares Out So Sun Kills the Cotton Pests.

By W. D. HUNTER,
Bureau of Entomology of the United States Department of Agriculture.

The impression is more or less general that the only important way in which boll weevils may be killed is by the removal of the infested plants and that all other steps in the system of control are merely to avoid damage by the weevils that have survived that destruction and their offspring. In spite of this impression, however, it is urged that the destruction of myriads of weevils can be accomplished during the growing season. This is to be done by working in co-operation with the natural agencies that destroy the weevil.

In making examinations of many thousands of infested squares (un-blow cotton buds) from different localities and different situations in cotton fields it was found that mortality was conspicuously greater where the sunlight was least obstructed and the heat consequently the greatest. The mortality in infested squares in the middles was many times as great as in the case of squares which remained under the shade of the branches. The temperature at the surface of the



SIDE VIEW OF CHAIN CULTIVATOR. ground during warm days runs considerably higher than at a few feet above the surface.

For instance, it was found that when the temperature was 100 degrees F. in the regular weather bureau shelter about four feet above the ground the thermometer registered 140 degrees F. on the surface. Likewise 90 degrees F. in the shelter was accompanied by 120 degrees F. on the ground and 85 degrees F. in the shelter by 110 degrees F. on the ground.

It is not surprising, therefore, that the cotton squares that fall to the ground and are not shaded are very quickly baked, so that the weevils perish. If not from heat, then from the hardening of the food supply. In most cases they are simply roasted, their bodies assuming the appearance of larvae that have been placed in a flame.

Chain Cultivator Devised.

When the foregoing facts came to light efforts were made to perfect a device that would bring the infested squares out of the shade of the plants to the middles of the rows. After much experimental work one of the writer's former associates, Dr. W. E. Hinds, devised an implement that accomplishes the desired work in a satisfactory manner. This implement is known as the chain cultivator or chain drag.

The following specifications should enable any blacksmith to construct an effective chain cultivator:

The draft bar a, m, made of one-half by five-sixteenths inch tire steel, about fifty-two inches long, is designed to be about sixteen inches above the ground, and this is the height of the rear arch f, h, m, which is of this size and form to allow old cotton roots, etc., to pass through freely without clogging at the rear.

"Log Chains" Used.

The distance between the rear ends of the chains g, f, i, is in each pair fixed at about ten inches. The distance between a chain of one pair and that of the other at their front ends should be about nine inches. The chains used are of the size known as "log chains," having short, close links of three-eighths inch iron. This style of chain can be cut to the length needed in each case. The chain is easily attached by simply making the hooks at d, e, f and g so that the end of the

LIFE HABITS OF THE BOLL WEEVIL

FROM the time the egg is laid until the boll weevil is grown is from two to three weeks. The progeny of a single pair of weevils from June to November can reach the amazing number of 12,755,100.

The boll weevil eats nothing but cotton and will starve if this food is not available. The insect does not travel at night and is not attracted by lights.

During the summer the boll weevil lives about sixty days. While hibernating in the winter its life is longer, and there is one instance of a weevil living from Dec. 10 until the following October.

FACTS CONCERNING THE BOLL WEEVIL

IT came from Mexico and first appeared in southern Texas in 1892. It spread to half a dozen counties by 1894, when government attention was directed to it.

States now affected—Texas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas and Oklahoma.

Area affected, about 225,000 square miles.

Loss to planters, 400,000 bales annually. Since its advent the boll weevil has destroyed 2,550,000 bales, worth \$125,000,000.

By W. D. HUNTER,

Bureau of Entomology of the United States Department of Agriculture.

Although the destruction of the weevils in the fall is the great essential step in controlling the insect, it cannot be depended on exclusively. The full benefits of the fall work and the maximum crop cannot be obtained unless the next great step, procuring an early crop, is also taken.

The advantage of early planting has been demonstrated in every one of the numerous experiments made by the bureau of entomology and has now become the general practice among farmers. The reasons for the efficiency of early planting are not far to seek. The small numbers of weevils passing through the winter must have considerable time to multiply. They are unable to breed until squares are put on by the plants, since the food obtained from the fruit is required before reproduction can begin.

Advantage in Early Planting.

Moreover, at the time the first squares are put on, the development of the immature stages is comparatively slow, not reaching the very rapid rate that obtains during the warm days and nights of the summer. For

How to Adjust Chains.

The vertical section between b and c is about twelve inches long, so that the remainder of the front guard from c to near d will be about four inches above the ground. This prevents the pushing of dirt and squares toward the plants and allows the chains to catch them where they lie. The hooks at d and e are therefore bent downward and somewhat backward through about five or six inches. Care must be taken, especially in forming the outer ends between c and d, to secure best results. The downward bend for the hook at a should not be abrupt, as a gradual slope helps to prevent catching on any obstacles. The hooks at f and g are formed so as to hold the chains firmly and yet not interfere with the passage of rubbish.

The method of carrying the rear ends of the outer chains is shown at l h g. The piece k l is nearly parallel with the chains and may be used for their proper adjustment as to tension by several holes near the end where it is bolted at k. The chains are between thirty and thirty-six inches long.

The stand s, upon which the handles are pivoted by a one-half inch bolt, is made of a piece of boiler plate bent and cut so as to have a horizontal top surface about four inches square and standing about two and one-half inches above the draft bar, to which it is securely bolted.

Handles Adjust Chains.

The handles are bolted, as at r, to the heavy pieces of iron (about two by one-half inch thick steel), which are bent to receive them just behind the pivotal point at x, at such an angle as to bring the handles to the proper height and position. In front of x these pieces bearing the handles need not be so heavy and may therefore be tapered and welded to smaller steel running forward to h, where it is bolted to the front guard. The operation of this arrangement is similar to that of a huge pair of shears. When the handles are pushed apart the front of the machine is spread wider.

The braces j c e serve to support, strengthen and carry the front guard. They are riveted to the adjusting irons at j, one above and one below the "shear" pieces, to prevent their interference with the closing of the machine. At c this iron is bent to conform to the front guard, to which it is riveted between c and l, at which point it is bent downward and forms the hook e.

Made of Tire Steel.

Ordinary tire steel about one by one-fourth inch may be used for all parts like the clevis o, rear arches f h m and l h g and braces k l and j c e. The front guard a b c d should be of spring steel, as specified. The rivet heads on the front guard should be round and fit smoothly. In nearly all other places the irons are fastened together by one-fourth inch square headed bolts, with washers as needed.

Although the chain cultivator was designed primarily for bringing the squares to the middles, it was found in field practice to have a most important cultural effect.

In order that the use of this machine could be obtained by all farmers at the smallest possible cost a patent has been taken out in the name of the department of agriculture and for the benefit of the people of the United States. Under this patent it is impossible for any one to manufacture the machine exclusively and to charge unnecessarily high prices.

WEEVIL BEATEN BY EARLY CROP

Expert Advises on Way to Avoid Damage to Cotton.

FERTILIZERS ARE VALUABLE.

Every Possible Means Should Be Adopted For Forcing the Plants So That There Will Be No Food Late in Season For the Pests—Early Varieties Should Be Chosen.

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THE END OF TUBERCULOSIS

The Business of Sitting Out.

By LOUIS HAMMAN, M. D.

You must address yourself to the task of sitting outdoors day after day most faithfully. You must make it your constant occupation and stick to it as though you were paid money for it. If you do not get the idea of continuous rest firmly set in your mind you will not succeed. By rest I mean lying down in a bed or chair in the fresh air. You are not to spend any time in a closed room except when bathing or dressing or eating. Rest all the time. Take no exercise or work until your doctor tells you—no walking, no standing, no rambling, no riding, no driving, no housework, no office work, no chores, no trips, no visits, no knocking about, no odd jobs, no exertion of any kind. Put yourself at rest in the open air after breakfast and stay there. Do not be forever jumping up and doing little things about the house or fetching and carrying. Every morning sit out; every afternoon sit out; every evening after supper sit out or lie in your outdoor bed.

The Names of Moses.

Moses of Scriptural fame is called by eight different names in various places in the Bible. Bathia, the daughter of Pharaoh, called him Moses because she drew him out of the water. Jochebed, his mother, called him Jekuthiel, saying, "I had hoped for him." Miriam, his sister, called him Jared because she had descended after him into the water to see what his end would be. Aaron called his brother Abi Zanuch because his father had deserted his mother. Amram, the father of Moses, called the boy Chabbar because he was again reunited to the mother of the lad. Kehath, the grandfather of Moses, called him Abigdor because God had repaired the breach in the house of Jacob. The nurse of the grandfather of Moses called him Abi Socho because he was once hidden three months in the Tabernacle. All Israel called him Shemshah because "in his days God heard their cries and rescued them from their oppressors."

Dot and Trouseau.

Dealing with the weaknesses of actors, some noted for meanness, a Paris contemporary relates a good story of Frederick Lemaitre, the celebrated actor, who was somewhat parsimonious. When his daughter was about to marry, Lemaitre agreed to provide the "dot" and the trousseau. "Dot," it may be observed, is the French equivalent for the English "dower" or Scottish "tocher."

When the notary came to complete the contract and was reading the terms Lemaitre said: "The daughter of Frederick Lemaitre has not need of a dot. M. Le Notaire, strike out the dot."

The prospective son-in-law was present, and he had the courage to reply: "The daughter of Frederick Lemaitre can easily clothe herself with the fame of her father. M. Le Notaire, pray strike out the trousseau."

The Cry of the Loon.

The cry of the loon is one of the strangest, weirdest sounds in nature. Those who have heard it can scarcely wonder that it has so often been woven into song and legend.

A blood red ring hung round the moon.
Hung round the moon. Ah, me! Ah, me!
I heard the piping of the loon,
A wounded loon. Ah, me!
And yet the eagle feathers rare
I, trembling, wove in my brave's hair.

Almost all writers who have attempted to describe the cry of this bird have likened it to unmitigated laughter. Thus Mr. Vernon Bailey, speaking of the sound, describes it as follows: "Only on the lonely lake in the heart of the woods do you get the startling thrill of the loon's wild cry—clear, piercing note or a long, quavering, demonaical laugh that to the timid suggests a herd of screaming panthers."

Willing to Risk It.

Uncle—My dear boy, it's a fact that the bacilli on paper money have caused many a death before now. Nephew—Well, uncle, you might let me have a few notes. I'm very tired of life—Fliegende Blatter.

Lame shoulder is nearly always due to rheumatism of the muscles, and quickly yields to the free application of Chamberlain's Liniment. For sale by all dealers.

Uncommercial List.

Artistic folk frequently have some vague notions about business. Some of them are quite ignorant of it, others utterly indifferent to it and others yet hate the very name of it. One in the last named category was Liszt. He had returned from a successful tour, and Princess Metternich, the wife of the celebrated statesman and diplomatist, was questioning him regarding the concerts he had been giving abroad.

"I hear," she said, "that you did good business in Paris."

"To which Liszt gave the tart reply, 'I only played some music there. Business—that I leave to bankers and diplomatists.'"

To another lady the musical cleric gave a still more sarcastic answer. "Ah, Abbe," she sighed, "what a great fortune you would make if only you could be induced to go to America to play!"

Finis Language.

In the school year of 1896-7, in the town of Topfield, Mass., there was at least one committeeman whose command of language was unusual. This is shown by the annual report of the school committee for that season, part of which is copied here:

"The primary center school was instructed by Miss ——. Under the guidance of this master hand in genuine philosophic simplicity the school presented the same phase of unvarying successful advancement as in former years, from the dissonant mouthings of half-fledged juvenile articulation, through the winding passages of syllabism to the Mount Hope of spell-rendering, the same grateful interspersions of gymnastic, vocal, recitative and studious enaction rendering every exercise equally a pastime and a romance, the reality of the first efforts in dry study."—Youth's Companion.

An Ancient Die.

In the museum at Athens is shown what is probably the only genuine antique die used for coinage that is now extant. It was found in Egypt in 1904 and consists of bronze, engraved with the owl that was stamped on Athenian tetradrachma pieces, which contained about as much silver as three quarter dollars. The die is of scientific interest on account of the evidence it gives of the skill of the ancients three or four hundred years before Christ in metallurgy. It contains about 22½ per cent of tin and nearly 70 per cent of copper. It is extremely hard, but at the same time possesses a certain malleability, due to the great purity of the copper and tin, which were carefully freed from all traces of lead and zinc to preserve the hardness and from arsenic and antimony to avoid brittleness.—Harper's Weekly.

Making a Locomotive.

A young lady once visited the Baldwin Locomotive works and then told how a locomotive is made.

"You pour," she said, "a lot of sand into a lot of boxes, and you throw old stove lids and things into a furnace, and then you empty the molten stream into a hole in the sand, and everybody yells and swears. Then you pour it out and let it cool and pound it, and then you put it in a thing that horses hold in it. Then you screw it together and paint it and put steam in it, and it goes splendidly, and they take it to a drafting room and make a blue print of it. But one thing I forgot—they have to make a boiler. One man gets inside and one outside, and they pound frantically, and then they tie to the other things, and they ought to see it go!"

Napoleon's Peepholes.

A curious Napoleonic relic still preserved in St. Helena is a pair of shutters, each with a peephole. St. Helena was strongly garrisoned in Napoleon's time for divers reasons, and the British soldiers exercised on Deadwood plain, close to Longwood. Napoleon liked to look at them, but did not like them to look at him; hence those two shutters, one with a hole on a level with his eye while standing and the other with a hole adapted to his vision while seated.

Hard to Square.

As Miss Hypatia Squares reached the culminating point of her lecture on "Woman's Rights and How to Wield Them" she threw back her head and stood in an attitude of defiance.

"Talk of man!" she cried. "What has man ever done for woman?" "He's furnished the model she's trying her best to imitate!" boomed a manly voice from the rear of the hall. And then a palpitating silence reigned for nearly a minute.