

FARM AND GARDEN

PEA AND BEAN WEEVILS.

Facts in Their Life History—Effective Remedies Against Them.

The adult pea weevil is shown at B in Fig. 1, with its natural size indicated at the small outline below. Its general color is rusty black, with more or less white on the wing covers and a distinct



FIG. 1—THE PEA WEEVIL.

white spot on the hinder part of the thorax. The beetles begin to appear about the time peas are in blossom, and when the young pods form the females lay their eggs upon the surface without attempting to insert them. The eggs are deep yellow in color and are fastened by some viscid fluid, which turns white in drying. Where the insects are abundant a single pod will be found to carry as many as fifteen to twenty eggs, but only one larva can develop in a single pea. The newly hatched larva is deep yellow in color, with a black head, and bores directly through the pod into the nearest pea.

In the cut B represents the adult beetle; C, full grown larva; D, pupa; G, pea showing exit hole enlarged. The natural size of the insect in its various stages is represented by the smaller figures.

Sometimes many of the beetles will issue in the fall of the year, but as a general rule they remain in the peas through the following winter, and many are planted with seed peas. As far as is known the insects on issuing will not oviposit upon the dry peas, and a sure remedy will therefore be found in keeping seed peas in a close receptacle over two seasons before planting. The beetles will all issue at the customary time, but will soon die. When it is necessary to plant the first season the entire lot of seed should be thrown into water, when the "buggy" ones will float and should be removed and destroyed. Infested peas may also be disinfected by placing them in a tight vessel with one of a number of insecticides, among which may be mentioned camphor, chloroform, ether and bisulphide of carbon, the latter being cheapest and most efficacious. There is an idea current that the larva while working in the interior of the pea avoids the germ, and that peas which have been eaten by weevils are still available for seed. Careful experiments conducted by Professor Popenoe, of the Kansas station, appear to practically settle the question, so that it may be definitely said that weeviled or buggy peas should not be planted.

The bean weevil resembles the pea weevil in general appearance. The adult beetle is shown at Fig. 2; the main points of difference are in the absence of white markings. The general color is tawny gray, with more or less dull yellow, and it is somewhat smaller than the pea weevil. In its life history this species differs from the pea weevil in two important points. Largely on account of its smaller size and the greater size of the seed which it infests, a number of individuals will develop in a single bean. As many as twenty-eight have thus been found feeding at once. A second point of difference, and one of great economic importance, is that the insects will continue breeding indefinitely in stored beans.



FIG. 2—THE BEAN WEEVIL.

The remedies for this insect are the same as for the pea weevil, except that keeping the imported seed over two years in tight vessels will be of no avail for the bean weevil. Careful experiments with bisulphide of carbon show that in this substance we have an almost perfect remedy for both species. The foregoing facts are gathered from Insect Life, in which the illustrations also appear.

Roots for Milk Cows.

Carrots stand at the head of the list. They are an excellent food for all kinds of farm stock. A writer in The New England Homestead warns, however, against

feeding them regularly to milk cows. He says:

As small a quantity as four quarts three times a day will give the butter a carrot flavor. This may not be disagreeable at first, but with age it becomes unpalatable and makes the butter unfit for culinary purposes. Cabbages and turnips should never be fed to cows where their milk is made into butter. Some feed these roots to cows right after milking; others put boiling water into the milk; some even dose it with niter, but nothing will destroy the peculiar taste in the butter when turnips are fed.

Feed judiciously and not in such large quantities as to lax the bowels. Turnips do very well as a feed for dry cows, young stock, sheep and occasionally hogs. They should not be fed to horses, as they are liable to produce colic. All kinds of beets and mangolds are excellent for cows milked in winter, and best of all these is the white sugar beet. It can be grown more easily than the turnip and will produce a far greater number of tons per acre. Chopped and sliced and fed with a little wheat middlings and cornmeal it will produce a large flow of heavy sweet milk and make butter of excellent quality and flavor, which will keep sweet for months if properly packed and kept in a cool, clean place.

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Separation of Property.

No. 4694, D. C., First Judicial District Court of Louisiana. Mrs. Louisa L. O'Hara vs. P. M. O'Hara, Her Husband.

JUDGMENT.

In this case, by reason of the law and the evidence being in favor of plaintiff, and against defendant, it is ordered, adjudged and decreed that plaintiff, Mrs. Louisa L. O'Hara, have judgment against defendant, P. M. O'Hara, her husband, dissolving the community of acquets and gains heretofore existing between them. It is further ordered that the judgment of separation of property herein granted to Mrs. Louisa L. O'Hara take effect from the date of the filing of this suit, and that defendant pay all cost of this proceeding.

This doct. read and signed in open court, this 12th day of November, A. D. 1892. (Signed) S. L. TAYLOR, Judge 1st Judicial District Louisiana. A True Copy. F. A. LEONARD, Clerk.

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