

Special Newspaper Bulletin.

NUMBER 6.

Missouri Agricultural



Experiment Station.

COLUMBIA, MISSOURI.

APRIL 3rd, 1897.

INSECTS INJURING APPLES.

Bulletin No. 36 of the Missouri Agricultural Experiment Station, Columbia, by Prof. J. M. Stedman, reports the results of elaborate experiments with means of preventing two insects very injurious to apple trees, and describes cheap and efficient methods of combating them.

The insect known as the *apple leaf folder* may be readily killed by thoroughly spraying infested trees or nursery stock just as soon as the young insects begin to hatch, and before they have had time to fold the leaves to any considerable extent. This spraying should be done just as the apple tree leaves are unfolding.

The spraying mixture should be made as follows: 1 pound of Paris Green, 3 pounds of fresh lime, 150 gallons of water.

Since there are three broods of this insect each year, there are three periods during which spraying can be most successfully done.

The leaf crumpler, another insect very injurious to apple trees, may be readily killed by thoroughly spraying the infested trees while the leaves are unfolding and before the blossoms open, with the same mixture as recommended above.

If necessary, the trees may be sprayed again immediately after all the blossoms have fallen, but in this case the amount of water in the mixture should be increased to 175 gallons.

Never spray a fruit tree while it is in blossom; serious injury to the blossom and imperfect pollination may result, and in many instances honey bees will be killed.

Never omit the fresh lime, and always use two or three times as much lime by weight as Paris Green. This will lessen the chances of burning the leaves and injuring the trees. Spray with a mixture of the strength just given.

To make it weaker is to render it less effective in killing insects; to make it stronger is to injure the foliage of the trees. Always see that the mixture is kept constantly stirred while spraying. Apply with as much force as possible, and use as fine a spray as can be made. Spray thoroughly. Hold the spray on the tree long enough to saturate it and to reach all parts, and always spray from at least two sides. This bulletin is for free distribution to the farmers, and may be had by writing to the Director of the Experiment Station, Columbia, Missouri.