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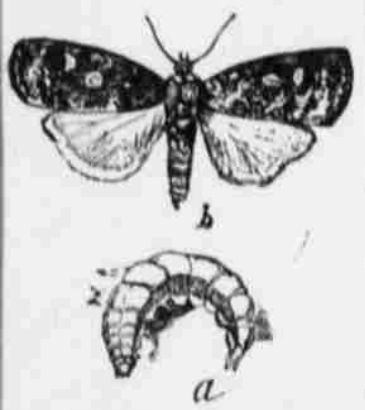
FARM & GARDEN

LIFE HISTORY OF CUTWORMS.

Three Important Methods of Checking Damage by Cutworms.

There are few garden pests that are more exasperating in their manner of doing damage than the cutworms. A choice tomato plant, perhaps of a new variety, a half dozen young cabbages, two or three young squashes near together, are found lying prostrate in the morning, when they were upright and healthy the evening before. It is easy to see that their stems have been cut off near the surface of the ground during the night, but no other signs of the depredator are visible. Sometimes by poking the earth away from the roots of the plant one can find a dirty brown worm, looking like a caterpillar. This is the cutworm, the author of the mischief, and is represented in the sketch much enlarged.

There are many species of these cutworms, and they attack a variety of field and garden crops. They are all young, or larvae of medium sized, night flying moths, one of which is represented after its growth (greatly enlarged) by Dr. Riley at b. These moths deposit their eggs generally on the twigs or branches of trees and shrubs, and the larvae soon hatch and descend to the ground, where they feed upon grass or clover. They become about half grown by the time winter sets in. Then they shelter themselves under boards or rubbish or burrow into the soil. Thus they pass the winter, and in spring come out of their hiding places in a famished condition. They begin feeding soon as possible, and attack a variety of plants, such as cabbages, tomatoes, turnips, squashes, melons, corn, oats and others.



MOTH AND CUTWORM ENLARGED.

In the garden they commonly gnaw off the stems and leave the plants on the ground, though occasionally they eat the whole plant. Late in spring or early in summer they become full grown as worms. Then they make themselves hollow cells in the soil and change to the pupa or chrysalis state. Two or three weeks later they again change, this time coming forth as adult moths. In some species there are two broods each season, and in others there is but one.

Like other injurious insects, cutworms fluctuate in numbers from year to year. Some seasons they are very destructive, while at other times their injuries may attract no attention. This is doubtless due to the various enemies cutworms have to contend with. They are preyed upon by birds, toads, frogs and predatory beetles. They are attacked by many kinds of internal parasites and are subject to certain contagious diseases.

Three most important methods of artificially checking the damage done by cutworms are summarized as follows by Clarence M. Weed, authority for the foregoing, in American Cultivator:

worms prowling around in search of food eat of the baits thus set and are destroyed before doing any harm.

Second—Using boards as traps. This method consists in placing boards on the ground in and about the garden, and collecting in the morning the worms that will congregate beneath them during the night.

Third—Digging out the worms where plants have been cut off. This is practicable in most gardens, and is well worth doing, thus preventing further damage.

Fall plowing is also a valuable general measure, because it exposes the worms to enemies and the weather. Burning up rubbish and over waste grass-land also kills some.

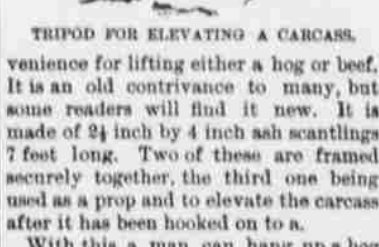
Feeding Dairy Cattle. At the annual winter meeting of the Massachusetts state board of agriculture much information of practical interest was elicited from papers read and the discussions following. In a paper on cattle feed Professor James Choseman, of Southboro, urged the use of cottonseed meal and of linseed meal as an important adjunct to dairy farming, an adjunct already highly appreciated in his state. A special value is given to these concentrated feeds, which greatly enhances the value of the manure dropped by the animals feeding thereon.

Professor Choseman recommends his grass lands once in three years, preferring corn on sod and then grasses.

The best way of converting corn into food for cattle, in his opinion, is to put it into the silo. With good ensilage the use of a small amount of cornmeal will secure a well balanced ration. He had three years' experience with ensilage. The cost of raising and harvesting the corn and putting it into the silo is \$2.75 a ton, and three tons of good ensilage is worth a ton of hay, according to his experience.

The value of the honey and wax produced in the United States during the past year has been estimated at \$30,000,000.

Device for Lifting a Carcass. Farmers at butchering time will find the tripod here depicted a decided convenience for lifting either a hog or beef.



TRIPOD FOR ELEVATING A CARCASS.

It is an old contrivance to many, but some readers will find it new. It is made of 2 1/2 inch by 4 inch ash scantlings 7 feet long. Two of these are framed securely together, the third one being used as a prop and to elevate the carcass after it has been hooked on to a.

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