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Some Orchard Troubles And Their Remedies

C. E. Schuster, Field Horticulturist,
O. A. C. Extension Division.

A visit through the orchards of Heppner and surrounding vicinity shows that there are three main troubles affecting the fruit trees besides several minor ones. All of these can be controlled sufficiently and with little cost to insure a good crop of fruit so far as these troubles are concerned.

Fire blight is doing some damage at the present time and is very apt to do much more at any time. Fire Blight can be noted by the dead appearance of the leaves on a limb—as if they had been scorched by fire—hence the name of Fire Blight. Fire Blight is found on apples and pears and is caused by bacteria. The only control is to cut out the effected parts. Cut out the effected parts well below the diseased section and burn, for if the diseased parts are left lying around insects will carry the bacteria to some other place where a new tree or parts of tree will be infected. The tools used in cutting out the diseased parts should be disinfected by using mercury bichloride—one part of mercury bichloride to one thousand parts of water. The tools are wiped with a rag, wet with the solution and the cut should be washed with it also. This fire blight must be controlled by individual work but can usually be done if watched carefully.

Also everyone has a greater or less number of wormy apples caused by the larva of the codling moth. The worm is so common that every one knows it. These are destroyed by covering the surface of the apples with a poison spray and according to conditions it will soon be time for a new generation of worms to appear. To kill them spray with lead arsenate, one pound of the powdered lead arsenate to fifty gallons of water or one ounce to three gallons of water. Another season they should be sprayed for earlier in the season as well.

Just at this time there will be found a slug feeding on the leaves of the cherries and pears. The leaves appear dead and dark at a distance and on examination a greenish, slimy slug will be seen feeding on the upper surface of the leaves. These can be controlled by the same spray as used for the codling moth or easier yet, in many cases, simply by dusting the leaves with air slaked lime or even road dust. Put the dust in a burlap sack and shake over the surface, seeing that the leaves are thoroughly covered.

As general as the others or even more so is the San Jose Scale that has practically killed quite a number of trees in this vicinity and surely will kill them if the scale is not destroyed. These are found as minute scales, under which will be seen a yellow, soft body, and often the scales are so thick as to entirely cover the bark of the tree. The scale is killed by spraying with lime sulphur during the winter or early spring, before the leaves come out, using one part of lime sulphur to ten parts of water. The spray must touch each insect so the work will be thorough.

The work of cutting out the Fire Blight will probably best be done by each owner as the fire blight shows up. But the control for the remainder of the disease can quite easily be handled under a community cooperative plan of spraying. With a power sprayer already on hand it should be an easy thing to get someone to do the work. For each person to get an outfit to spray his trees is too expensive and in most cases it will not be done. These trees proving a menace to those orchards that are being sprayed. While the cost of an individual outfit may be prohibitive the cost with a community outfit will be much less and the slight cost will be many times repaid by the amount of fruit gathered. This community should raise all the fruit for its uses in the gardens and small home orchards and fruit of an exceptional quality if appearances are not deceptive. But the trees will need care the same as any other crop though no other crop will repay as well for the care bestowed on it. One of the cares is to spray in order to keep the insects and diseases under control to allow the trees to grow and develop fruit to the best of their ability.

Big Decline In Sheep Since '14

Before the war the United States had approximately one-tenth of all the sheep in the world. Since then the total number of sheep has decreased from all causes about one-tenth, possibly more. That makes the world decline in excess of 50 millions of sheep, or slightly greater than the number of sheep in the United States.

In some countries there has been no increase since 1914, but from the reports of the International Institute of Agriculture and also of the Food Administration, the countries which report increases are outnumbered by those whose sheep raising declined.

The Canadian Feed Board places the probable decrease in sheep in Europe alone in excess of 54 millions. That is considerably higher than other estimates, but it is fairly safe to conclude that at the time the armistice was signed there were fewer sheep in the world by many millions than when Belgium was invaded.

LIVE CECIL NEWS ITEMS

Cecil Thorne of Morgan was calling in Cecil Sunday.

Carl Yount of Ione was a business man in Cecil Monday.

Henry J. Streeter of Four Mile was an Ione caller Wednesday.

Joe White of Heppner Junction was an Arlington visitor Friday.

Jimmy Kenny of Heppner made a short stay in Cecil on Thursday.

Mrs. Weltha Combest spent Saturday evening with Mrs. T. H. Lowe.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Cronk of Ione were looking up their Cecil friends on Wednesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hynd visited with Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Franklin of Rhea on Sunday.

T. H. Lowe of Cecil and Walter Pope of "Sunnyside" were Arlington business callers Friday.

Arthur Hodgson, "Willow Creek" returned to Cecil Saturday morning to resume his duties.

Mr. and Mrs. John Nash and family of Ewing spent Monday at the home of Mrs. Peter Nash of Cecil.

Miss Hazel Winters of "Shady Dell" and Miss C. H. Winters of Seattie were Cecil callers Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Nicholson of Southern California are visiting with Mr. and Mrs. Ross of the "Bungalow."

Otto Finley of Ione arrived in Cecil Sunday where he will join his father who is busy working for Jack Hynd.

Mr. and Mrs. George Miller of "Highview" and U. E. Baker of "Broadacres" were Cecil callers on Sunday.

Peter Baurenfreund of Cecil left on Wednesday for his annual vacation which he will spend at the Ritter Springs.

Miss Juanita Crabtree of "Dotheboys Hill" and Miss Cleota Palmateer of "Windynook" were callers in Cecil Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Karl Farnsworth of Rhea and their niece Miss Thelma Hall, autoed to Heppner Wednesday, returning home Friday.

The following Cecilites, Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hynd, J. H. Franklin and Clifford Henriksen, made a call during the week to the county seat.

Mr. and Mrs. A. Henriksen of "Willow Creek Ranch" left Sunday for Glendale, Ore. They went by auto as far as Roseburg, taking in the sights of the Highway.

Misses Helen Barratt and Doris Mahoney of Heppner arrived in Cecil Sunday where they spent the week visiting at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hynd of "Butterby Flats."

George Krebs of the "Last Camp," Mesdames Bennett and Lowe and Misses A. C. and M. H. Lowe spent Monday evening at the home of Mrs. Ben Barnes of "Poplar Grove."

Mr. and Mrs. C. A. Minor and daughter, Miss Blanche, arrived at the "Last Camp" Wednesday. Miss Blanche entertained her friends to a musical evening before leaving for their Portland home.

Mrs. Jack Hynd gave a farewell party on Monday evening for her nephew, Geo. Shaw. A merry time was spent by all the young guests. George left on Tuesday morning for his home in Prince Rupert.

George and Henry Krebs, accompanied by Mrs. Bennett and Miss Georgia Summers of the "Last Camp" and Miss Etta Barnes of "Poplar Grove" autoed to the home of Cleve VanSchoelck on Balm Fork Sunday where they all spent a pleasant day.

IMPORTANT TO AUTO OWNERS

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