

# Hornworms Again Prove Menace To Weed Growers

War Has Limited Supply Of Lead Arsenate And Paris Green Supplies; Cryolite Is Substitute

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Hornworms have again hit the tobacco belt in rather large numbers, and in many cases it has been necessary to poison for control of this pest. In the past tobacco growers have used a mixture of paris green and lead arsenate for controlling tobacco insects. Since the war, however, the lead arsenate and paris green supplies have been somewhat limited, and there was a time last year in some sections of North Carolina where neither of these materials was not available.

The tobacco experiment stations throughout the blue-cured area have found that cryolite gives very satisfactory control of flea beetles, hornworms, and budworms when properly applied. Cryolite is now generally stocked throughout North Carolina and is available to practically every tobacco farmer. Cryolite is a fluorine compound and is not nearly as poisonous to humans as is either lead arsenate or paris green.

There is no danger of burning the foliage of the tobacco when using cryolite, and besides being recommended for tobacco insect control, it is widely used as a garden insecticide. Although it may be slightly more expensive per acre per application than paris green-lead arsenate mixture, tobacco farmers are urged to use cryolite because it is not a critical war material.

Sufficient supplies of cryolite are available, so that no shortage is anticipated. Cryolite occurs naturally as a rock in Greenland and is mined there. Some cryolite is also obtained from the manufacture of aluminum.

Below are the recommendations of the North Carolina Agricultural Extension Service for using cryolite for control of tobacco insects.

**Tobacco Insect Control**  
J. Myron Maxwell, In Charge  
Entomology Extension  
Flea Beetle (In plant beds)—Dust 80-20 cryolite dust at rate of 1 pound to 100 sq. yds. of



The word robot is derived from the Czech word robít which means work.

plant bed. Use rotary hand duster.

Flea Beetle (On newly set plants)—Dust 80-20 cryolite dust at rate of 8-10 pounds per acre. Use plunger or rotary duster.

Flea Beetle (On field plants)—Dust 80-20 cryolite dust with good duster at rate of 10-15 pounds per acre.

Hornworms—Cryolite as a spray: Use 6 pounds of cryolite in 50 gallons of water. Apply at rate of 70-8 gallons per acre. Use good sprayer with spray boom so entire plant can be well covered with spray.

Cryolite as a dust: Use 80-20 cryolite at rate of 10-15 pounds per acre. Increase the rate for large plants; reduce it for smaller plants. Use a good duster to obtain complete coverage and good control.

Budworms—Poisoned Bait: Cornmeal, 1 peck; Cryolite, 1 pound. Thoroughly mix materials and apply a generous pinch on top of each plant. A second application may be necessary.

\*80-20 cryolite dust is prepared by mixing 80 percent cryolite with 20 percent talc, pyrophyllite or other diluents. Do not use lime with cryolite.

The above recommendations are those of the North Carolina Extension Service and the United States Department of Agriculture. Tobacco Experimental Laboratories.

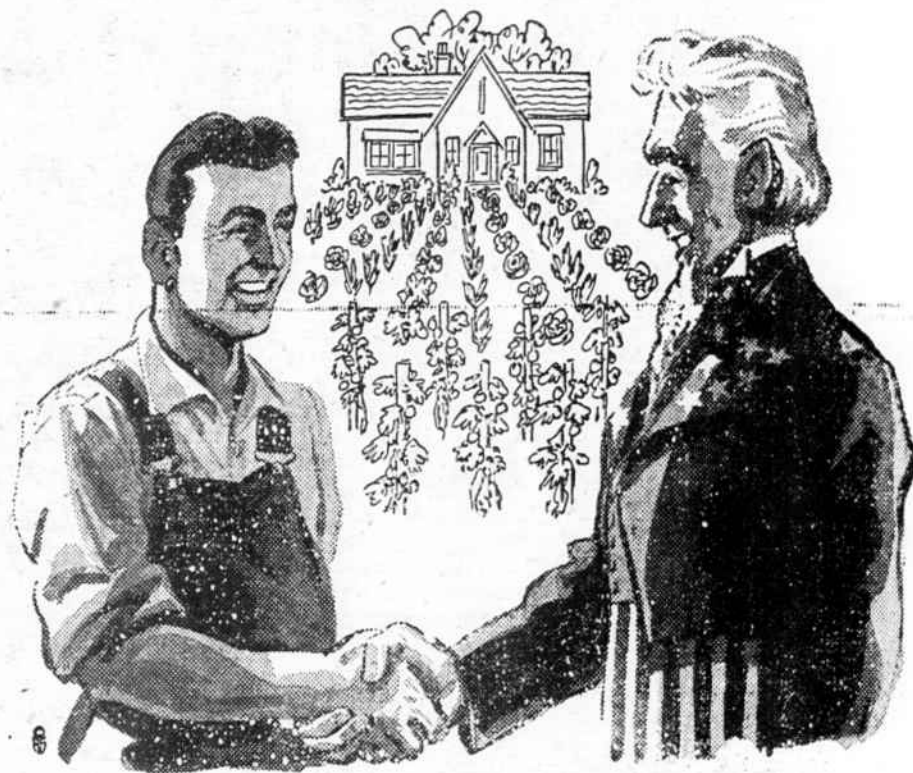
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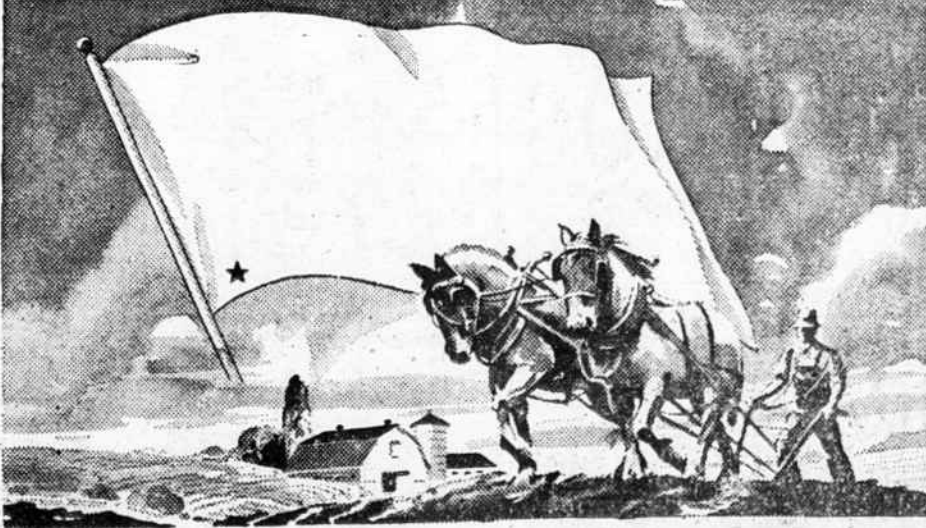
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