

JUNE WORK ON THE TOBACCO FARM

Fighting the Worms—Poisoning Much Better Than Hand-Picking—Arsenate of Lead the Best Poison to Use

IT IS very probable that tobacco hornworms will be more plentiful this year than when tobacco is planted early. As a rule the first crop of

June crop of worms do not do any serious damage, especially if the tobacco is small. However, if the tobacco is not harvested before the August crop of worms come, the damage may be very serious. It is not unusual for late tobacco to be damaged 50 per cent by worms, even after the growers have done all they can by "hand worming."

When labor was plentiful, cheap and efficient "hand worming" was probably the most economical means of combating the pest. However, during the past few years hand worming has become too costly, and growers have been forced to employ an insecticide. At the time insecticides were first used Paris green was found to be the safest and most efficient. Nevertheless, there has always been complaint of frequent serious burning of tobacco as a result of its use. Messrs Morgan and Parman, in Farmers' Bulletin No. 595, United States Department of Agriculture, do not recommend the use of Paris green on tobacco, but have found by a large number of experiments, covering several years work, that powdered arsenate of lead is the safest and most efficient insecticide.

Arsenate of lead can be applied as heavy as five pounds per acre without any danger of damaging the tobacco, even if it is applied after the tobacco has begun to grain up or ripen. Paris green applied at the rate of one to two pounds per acre as late as this will almost invariably result in serious damage by burning or blistering the leaves.

Arsenate of lead can be applied in rainy weather and is effective. However, the best time to apply it is when the dew is on the tobacco and there is not much breeze stirring, as it is possible to get a more even distribution. Still it has been found to be very effective when applied during the middle of the day when there is no dew on the tobacco.

The dosage of arsenate of lead in powdered form varies from three and one-half pounds per acre, before tobacco has lapped in the rows to five pounds after it has lapped in the rows. If applied as a spray use three to four pounds in 100 gallons of water. It is recommended that dry wood ashes be mixed with the powdered arsenate of lead as a carrier, half and half in bulk. However, it has been used without any carrier with a good strong dust gun and splendid results obtained. In fact, there is a dust gun on the market now that can be used without any carrier.

A dust gun having a fan diameter of at least eight inches is necessary. A dust gun of the above size can be bought for about \$10, and the powdered arsenate of lead can be bought for about 25 cents per pound, retail. One application of four pounds per acre is frequently all that will be required in the flue-cured district, which makes the cost of keeping the worms off a minor consideration as compared with the damage they can do in a few days.

Paris green is cheaper than the arsenate of lead, but it is not safe to use, nor is it as effective.

One man can with a dust gun cover several acres in a day. Walk down between the rows and hold the nozzle high enough so the powdered lead will settle on all the leaves.

E. G. MOSS.

The man who's wise will advertise.



MR. MOSS

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 Those who are not seeking to enter on scholarships are advised to stand examinations on July 14, rather than wait until they come to College in the fall. Credit will be given for examinations passed at the county seat.

NEXT SESSION OPENS SEPTEMBER 20, 1916.

Write at once to W. M. RIGGS, President

Clemson College, S. C., for Catalog, Scholarship Blanks, etc. If you delay, you may be crowded out.

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