

Remedy For Blue Mold Probably Be Ready For Use Next Season

E. G. Moss, State Tobacco Specialist, Says Experiments With An Improved Copper Oxide Spray Shows Promise.

Raleigh, May 22.—Blue mold—deadly fungus eating at the heart of the tobacco-growing industry in North Carolina—will probably find the department of agriculture ready with a practical and economic spray with which to war upon the disease next season.

It has been a battle with the elements this season with blue mold the victor so far, but sprays are being studied in an effort to find control measures and next season the "ammunition" is expected to be ready for use by the tobacco grower.

Blue mold sickens in sunny weather, takes on new life in wet, cool, damp weather. But sunny weather is not dependable and the growers are suffering from the plant-bed disease.

So the department of agriculture, in cooperation with the government and other extension specialists, went to work to find a remedy for the disease threatening the state's 106 million dollar tobacco crop. And results have been obtained by using copper oxide oil sprays.

"The copper oxide oil sprays are not perfect by any means but have given fairly satisfactory control and it seems this spray is worthwhile," E. G. Moss, tobacco specialist of the department of agriculture, announced today. "It is very probable this spray will be generally recommended by another season. The results were not completed in time to recommend for this season's crop."

Moss, who is assistant director in charge of the department's tobacco test farm at Oxford, added that there is no reason, however, to expect the tobacco industry to be crippled on account of this disease as all indications point to a means of control which are practical and can be economically used."

Meanwhile, farmers are guarding their plant beds with shotguns at night and fear is expressed for the crop, but department of agriculture specialists declare "it is too early to make any accurate estimate" of the damage expected from blue

mold. Blue mold or downy mildew which first occurred in the flue-cured belt in 1931 has become a serious menace in the production of tobacco plants. In March, 1921, the disease made its appearance in Gadsden county, Florida, and Decatur county, Georgia, on seedlings of shade grown tobacco. However, for the next ten years the disease was not reported.

"In 1932, blue mold spread rapidly and did serious damage to the seedlings over the entire flue-cured belt," the tobacco specialists pointed out. "But during the next four years while this disease was present each year, it did not seriously affect the stand of plants. Then beginning in the Georgia-Florida belt early this year, it was evident that the disease was more virulent and would cause more damage to the seedlings than at any time since 1932."

Moss said the results of blue mold so far have been that the Georgia crop will be smaller than was anticipated by 25 to 30 per cent "and there will probably be some slight reduction in the acreage planted in the remainder of the belt."

"Another important factor as a result of this disease has been that growers plant from two to three times as much area in seed beds as would be necessary for the same acreage if the blue mold was not present," he said, adding that "this alone adds materially to the cost of growing the tobacco crop."

Since the first outbreak of blue mold, a large amount of work has been done at the department of agriculture's tobacco test farm by plant pathologists and others in an effort to work out control measures.

"It was soon recognized that temperature and sunshine were important factors in controlling this fungus," Moss announced. "On the other hand, fungicides that had been used on other plants could not be used on the tender tobacco plants; consequently, new treatments had to be developed." And the new department officials and tobacco growers for the control in 1938.

—Come to Wallace June 7-12—
Attend the Strawberry Festival here all Next Week.

ODDEST PLANT IS NATIVE OF THIS SECTION

Venus Fly Trap Is Found Only In Southeastern Section of North Carolina.

Growing along the coast in a narrow strip of low, bay-filled land in the southeastern part of North Carolina, in which Wallace is situated, and approximately forty miles wide by a hundred miles long, is found one of nature's most unusual plant specimens—the Venus fly trap.

Wherever one finds plant lovers—or lovers of the unusual—whether it be in the Old North State or on the other side of the world, mention of this strange animal-plant brings forth an interested discussion of its peculiar habits and appearance. Scientists have studied it and horticulturists have delved into its mysterious past for some hint as to its origin. Expeditions to the far corners of the world in search of rare plants have combed the regions visited for it, but all to no avail. Apparently, it stands alone as one of Mother Nature's most unique contributions to the flora of the earth, and was meant to grow in no other known spot in the world save a restricted

section in southeastern North Carolina.

The Venus fly trap was said by Charles Darwin to be the most unusual plant ever to come under his observation, and it comes closer to being both plant and animal than any other growth known. It is a low plant, hugging the moist, damp earth, and rarely grows more than a few inches in height. What distinguishes it from other members of the plant world and saves it from utter mediocrity, is its peculiar habit of catching and digesting insects and bugs in its trap perched in the tips of its leafy arms.

These traps are nothing more than narrow jaws equipped on each rim with a number of tooth-like fibres with which it imprisons insects and devours them. Each jaw is lined with five sensitive hairs, three on one side and two on the other, which, once touched, cause the two sides of the hinge-like jaws to close tightly, imprisoning the subject within. If edible, the trap stays closed until the contents are digested, which takes about eight days; if, on the other hand, the object is not digestible, the jaws re-open in about twenty-four hours, ready for business again.

Strangely enough, the digestive process is carried forward by means of a secretion which

exudes from the pores in the jaws of the trap portion of the plant when it is closed. This secretion has been analyzed and found similar in certain respects to the juices found in the human stomach. Each trap becomes, in effect, after the jaws have closed firmly upon the unwary insect, a miniature stomach, which furnishes nourishment to the plant during the period of digestion.

Seemingly, it would appear that the plant would be unable to distinguish an edible from an inedible object, but such is not the case. It will close upon an inedible object, but, as before stated, will soon discover its mistake, opening in a comparatively short period and expelling the unwanted object. But place bits of sugar, or other digestible objects in the trap and it will not re-open until the last particle of it has been digested. Flies, spiders, locusts, bumble bees, and even small frogs have been found in the jaws of this wicked little plant.

To one who might care to ramble about the woods and savannahs near Wallace, many of these plants may be observed. While very partial to moist ground, found on the edges of sand hills where they come down and merge with a bay or swamp, they will never be found in a bay or swamp proper. Ap-

parently they require a well-drained soil.

The plants begin to show up about the first of April, although they may sprout earlier in sheltered places, and blooms along in May, sending up its cluster of white flowers on a single stem from the exact middle of the plant. The seed appear in June, and, after drying, fall to the earth from which the plants are re-seeded the next season. The Venus fly trap is mature within three months after springing up, and the traps on some good-sized, vigorous specimens reach a size large enough to hold a young spring frog.

Just why this strange plant should be confined to the small strip of land along the Carolina coast has never been explained. For this reason, and its own peculiar characteristics, it has

long been an object of curiosity to botanists. It has drawn interested people from many parts of the country, who have observed it and expressed amazement and wonder at it. And well they might, for there is nothing else like it in the whole world, nothing that even remotely resembles it.

—Come to Wallace June 7-12—
Try Different Corn

Eight dairymen of Yadkin County recently ordered nine bushels of Eureka ensilage corn seed and seven other dairymen later ordered 10 bushels for demonstration purposes.

—Come to Wallace June 7-12—
Improve Flocks

Two pure bred Hampshire rams have been ordered recently by Pasquotank sheep growers.

1904

1937

Compliments of
OSBORN CARR
FANCY GROCERIES

One of Wallace's oldest Business Institutions Joins in Cooperation to Boost and Build.

1895

Welcome Festival Visitors!

"Growth Through Service"

1937

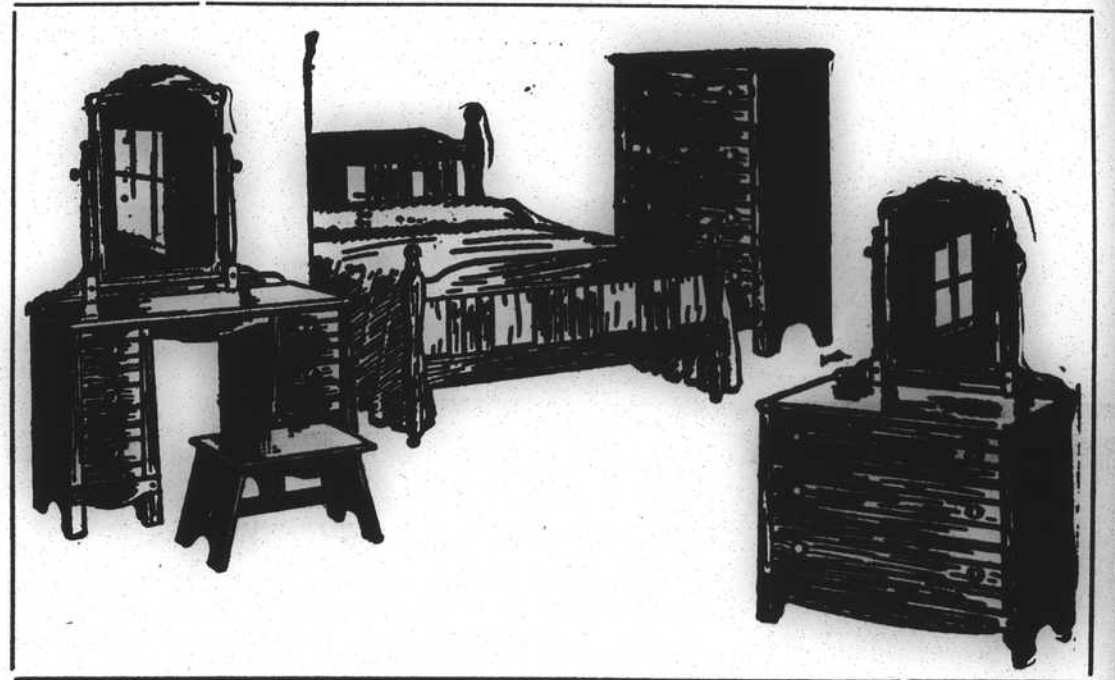
Keeping Pace...

...And Keeping Faith

● It is with a gratifying sense of appreciation that we review the history and growth and development of Wallace and this Coastal Section, with due recognition and appreciation of the major contribution the Strawberry, and its development as a marketable crop, has made to the commercial and civic progress of our Town and our Community in general.

● Closely entwined with the history of progress of our Community is the eviable record of growth and progress of this "Old Reliable" Institution . . . a record made possible through Service rendered, as a contributing factor in the progress of the Section and people we serve. For 42 Years we have kept pace with the needs of this section, in our lines, and have kept Faith with the people through execution of the policy that "We, Ourselves are Better Served by Serving Others Best."

● We are glad to join in extending to Our First Lady, Our Governor and other notable guests and to our Festival Queen, a most hearty Welcome. . . . And to Wallace and the Festival Committee we proffer our felicitations for their efforts to make this year's Festival the Biggest and Best ever. And to the thousands of visitors to the occasion, we extend an Invitation to Visit Our Store during their stay here.



The Home...

...The Bulwark of the Nation

Wallace is truly "The Home of Homes", and that this is true we feel a sense of pride . . . by reason of the fact that we, ourselves, have been instrumental in making it so . . . through the selling of Complete Home Furnishings for the Inside, and Materials and Supplies with which to Build the Home. See Us for Your every Need in

COMPLETE FURNITURE AND HOME FURNISHINGS · PAINTS · SCREENS
ROOFING · STOVES · WIRE FENCING · BUILDERS SUPPLIES · FERTILIZERS
HORSES AND MULES · FARM IMPLEMENTS

Z. J. CARTER & SON

WALLACE, N. C.

"The Strawberry Capital"

WALLACE, N. C.

1905

Thirty Two Years

1937

SERVING THIS SECTION WITH
INSURANCE SERVICE

Proper Insurance Investment and Protection is a vital contributing Factor in the growth and Progress of any Community. In this respect We are glad to have had a Part in this Section's Best Interests.

Accident
Fire—Casualty
Wind Storm—Hail—Tornado

Now is the time to Protect your Crops with Wind-storm and Hail Insurance. I represent the Country's Largest and Strongest Companies.

J. D. CARR
GENERAL INSURANCE.

Wallace . . . North Carolina