

though the trees are in full bloom, than not to spray at all. For this purpose use 8-6-40 Bordeaux mixture, or lime-sulphur 1-15 to 1-20. For plum-rust, bladder-plum, &c., spray as for the peach.

*Black-spot.*—This well-known fungus disease is accountable each season, directly and indirectly, for a very large quantity of damaged and blemished fruit—directly by the damage done to the fruit by the disease itself, and indirectly by the scorching of the spray on the fruit and foliage in the attempt to check the spread of the disease. Of the two the spray-damage is probably greater than that caused by the disease. This of course does not mean that spraying should be discontinued, for if such were the case the damage done by the disease would in a short time be very much greater than the two combined. The object to be aimed at is to control the disease and at the same time reduce the amount of spray-damage to a minimum. With this in view it is advisable to reduce as far as possible the necessity of summer spraying; but when such is required select a formula best calculated to check the disease with the least amount of damage to the fruit and foliage.

Actual outbreaks of black-spot can best be guarded against by thorough spraying with stronger fungicidal sprays earlier in the season, the most satisfactory time being after the buds burst and are showing colour, or when the most advanced are in full bloom. This state of bud-development, so far as a number of varieties of apples and pears are concerned, can be expected during the latter part of the month. Watch for this and spray thoroughly, and you will to a great extent provide against attacks of black-spot. The sprays recommended for this purpose are—

Pears: 6-4-50 Bordeaux mixture, or lime-sulphur 1-15.

Apples: 6-4-50 Bordeaux mixture, or lime-sulphur 1-25 to 1-30.

*Powdery Mildew of the Apple.*—Bad attacks of this disease seriously affect the health of a tree, particularly those of more or less weak constitution, such as the Jonathan. Some varieties are less subject to attack than others, but very few are altogether immune. Lime-sulphur has proved to be by far the best remedy in general use for this disease. The spray should be applied early, just as the leaves are forming, and should be repeated at intervals throughout the season. An affected tree should be well cut back at the winter pruning to stimulate growth, and all affected parts overlooked at this pruning should be removed after growth commences, when they will be readily discerned owing to the white powdery appearance of the foliage.