

WORK FOR THE COMING MONTH.

THE ORCHARD.

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THE month of November marks the opening of the summer work in the orchard. To what extent this work is to be comparatively simple and plain sailing depends to a large extent on two things—firstly, the thoroughness with which the winter and early spring work has been attended to, and, secondly, the climatic conditions obtaining.

Sucking-insects, such as red mite, woolly aphis, mussel and San Jose scale, &c., appear very early in the season. Mussel scale hatch out and are on the move during the latter part of October and November. Red mite and San Jose scale in many instances commence activities with the spring of the blossoms, and increase rapidly in numbers through the summer. If left unchecked they seriously affect the health of the tree and consequently the fruit crop. The winter application of insecticides such as oil emulsion, &c., previously recommended, reduces the extent of summer affection and consequently the amount of summer spraying required in respect to the insects mentioned, according to the thoroughness with which it has been applied. It must be remembered that the summer is not the time to undertake the eradication of such pests. Summer treatment at best is only a check, but in most instances it becomes a necessary work in order to minimize the damage which otherwise would result.

The control of fungus diseases and the amount of work required during the early summer also depends very largely upon the late winter and early spring spraying. Under any circumstances such fungus diseases as black-spot, brown-rot, &c., are liable to cause trouble if the weather during the early summer is moist and muggy, but even under such conditions the danger is increased or otherwise according to the circumstances governing the earlier sprayings.

CONTROL OF DISEASES.

Codlin-moth.

Calyx-spraying to be of any value for the control of moth must be done before the calyx closes. The object of this spray is not to prevent the immediate affection of the fruit, but for the