

under glass in a locality they might well co-operate in securing an outfit for mutual use. Small quantities of soil may be sterilized by baking it in a pan in an oven before sowing the seed, or placing the box over a sink and pouring a gallon or two of boiling water into it as fast as the soil will take it up, afterwards standing it aside till sufficiently dry for sowing.

With chemicals we have much less certain agents, although good work has been done. While many chemicals when applied to the soil act to a certain extent both as a fungicide and an insecticide, it is well to clearly ascertain the character of the primary trouble to be dealt with before selecting a chemical remedy. For instance, eelworm, insect larvæ, and fungus in the soil require distinctive treatment.

Where eelworm is the main trouble, experience has shown carbon bisulphide to be the best chemical remedy. Use it at the rate of 6 oz. per square yard, pouring it into a number of holes about 5 in. deep; then fill and tamp the holes. Afterwards water the ground if the surface is loose or dry. A good method of doing this is to mark off the land in lines 1 ft. apart, cross-mark them by the same distance, and make the holes at the intersections, pouring in two-thirds of a fluid ounce of the chemical, an assistant following filling in and tamping the holes. For a glasshouse 100 ft. by 25 ft. 10½ gallons of carbon bisulphide would be required. A useful non-poisonous fungicide for this purpose is a 1-100 solution of formalin (formaldehyde), applying about 1 gallon of mixture per square foot. Two or three weeks should elapse before sowing or planting the land so treated.

Growers who are not suited by these methods might try the "Cheshunt Compound." It contains 2 oz. copper sulphate (blue-stone) and 11 oz. ammonium carbonate reduced to a fine powder and thoroughly mixed. Store it in a dry state in a tightly corked glass or stone jar for at least twenty-four hours before using. A solution is prepared by dissolving 1 oz. in a little hot water, and making up to 2 gallons with water. Water the infected soil, after which immediate planting may follow. Infected soil may be treated after seeds or plants are in position. This is specially recommended for fungi causing "damping-off" and root troubles.

As tomato-growers will now be commencing another season, the foregoing information will be useful to many. During the season just past "damping-off," black-stripe, fusarium wilt, and sclerotinia were very troublesome in places. Fruit affected with the latter disease was very noticeable. It is quite true that "prevention is better than cure," and the best treatment is good drainage and cultivation, and a carefully considered use of manures. Many growers engaged in intensive culture on heavy land might well use more lime, especially for the tomato crop.

VEGETABLES AND POTATOES.

Broad beans may be sown now, and in suitable localities sow peas and plant out lettuce. For early planting seed potatoes should be secured now, spread in trays for sprouting, and stored in a light airy place. Should the potato-moth be about, dip them in a mixture composed of 1½ lb. arsenate of lead and 50 gallons water. Where new land in grass has to be broken in, a commencement should now