

# MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE EXTENSION DIVISION

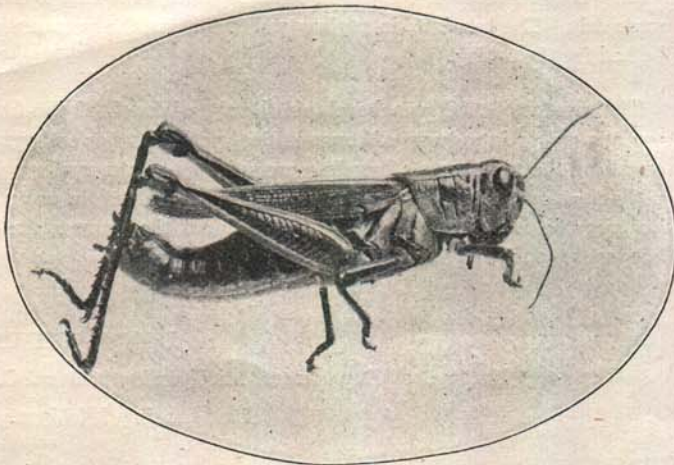
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EAST LANSING

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EXTENSION SERIES  
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## GRASSHOPPER CONTROL



Don't let the grasshoppers harvest the crop you have planted. They can easily be killed and the crops saved by the use of a poisoned bait. Past experiences have convinced the farmers in the northern part of the state that stern measures must be employed in order to combat this destructive pest.

<b>Mixing the poison.</b>	Into a bushel of screened sawdust thoroughly mix, by sifting, a pound of poison, either paris-green, white arsenic, or crude arsenious oxide. In a gallon of water dissolve three-fourths of a pound of salt and add one-half of a cup of molasses. Slowly pour this into the poisoned sawdust while the mixture is being stirred. Add enough more water to make a good stiff "mash."
<b>Spreading the poison.</b>	This poisoned bait can safely be taken in the hands and spread broadcast. It should not be left in piles around the field, but should be well scattered. A bushel of this poison ought to cover about three acres of ground.
<b>Time of applying poison.</b>	The best results from the use of this poison are to be expected when it is used late in the afternoon. Thus it will not dry out over night and will be fresh when the hungry hoppers go for it in the morning.
<b>Will it kill cattle?</b>	If put out in piles the chances are that there will be some casualties, but if applied as recommended no trouble is likely to result. However, it is best to salt the cattle before applying the poison to their feeding-grounds, as they will then be less attracted to the mixture.
<b>Cost of poison bait.</b>	As one can readily see, the cost of making a bushel of this poison bait will be only the cost of the poison itself together with a little molasses and some salt. The sawdust, in regions where the grasshoppers are worst, can be had for the asking.
<b>Success.</b>	The greatest benefit can be obtained only when all of the farmers in a community, or in a group of communities, work together and spread poison on all of the grasshopper breeding ground. One farmer using this poison without co-operation, will get but temporary relief, and in order to protect his crops he must keep on using it throughout the summer, for the grasshoppers are sure to fly in from other breeding grounds.

DON B. WHELAN,  
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