

MICHIGAN AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE EXPERIMENT STATION

PRESS BULLETIN NO. 35

To the Editor:

The information given below ought to be in the hands of all fruit growers. We would be grateful to you for assisting us in giving it publicity.

R. S. SHAW,
Director.

The Apple Red Bugs.

Michigan has at last acquired the famous red bugs of the apple, that have caused so much activity in New York. The present spring has shown their presence in the central part of the state on apple, though just how far they have spread, is not known. It was of course to be expected that sooner or later they would reach us and perhaps we have escaped as long as could be expected. The first case was found by Mr. G. C. Woodin, a member of the Department of Entomology at the Agricultural College, while examining trees for scale. The bugs are hatching out now and are crawling about. One species is bright red in color while the other has blackish markings. They are very small as yet, being about 1-16 of an inch long. The bugs pierce the young fruit as soon as it sets and either cause it to drop or else deform it. The leaves are also curled by the creatures. As to the control, tobacco preparations have proven the most satisfactory. Nicotine or nicotine sulphate (black leaf 40) the latter, one to eight hundred, with a little soap added, have proven successful in killing the nymphs, after once hatched out and before the adult stage is reached. A spray put on at this time has the further advantage of killing many of the plant lice or aphids at the same time.

R. H. PETTIT.
Entomologist, Experiment Station.

East Lansing, Michigan.
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