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Michigan State University Extension Service
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Issued March 1928
2 pages

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THE CONTROL OF PEAR PSYLLA FOR 1928

By W. C. DUTTON AND L. G. GENTNER

Pear psylla is very difficult to control in many seasons and there is no method known that will give satisfactory results unless the treatment is very thorough.

Dormant Application. The first application should be made in early spring after the hibernating "flies" appear on the pear trees in numbers, and preferably before egg-laying begins. Spray with extreme care, covering all parts of the trees, including water-sprouts, root-suckers, and growth on any pear stumps in the vicinity. It is also advisable to spray all interplanted and adjacent fruit trees of other kinds.

Material to Use. Use an oil emulsion or a miscible oil. If an emulsion is used it should be made with a **heavy** lubricating oil such as Atlantic Red Engine oil or Enarco Spray Oil or other similar product. Three per cent of actual oil in the diluted spray is recommended. Complete instructions for making the emulsion may be found in the Spraying Calendar, which will be sent on request. Apply by post-card to the Director, Agricultural Experiment Station, Michigan State College, East Lansing, Michigan.

For those who do not care to make the emulsion themselves, the use of a commercial ready-made miscible oil is advised. Experiments in 1927 indicated that these prepared miscible oils will give equally satisfactory results. Dilute according to the maker's instructions. Operators of small acreages of pears will probably find it more convenient and satisfactory to use the prepared miscible oils.

Summer Spraying. If psylla appears on the trees during the summer, make a very thorough application of nicotine sulphate and lime when honey-dew appears. In each 100 gallons of spray use one pint of nicotine sulphate and 25 to 30 pounds of fine hydrated lime. The addition of one pound of casein spreader will add to the effectiveness of the spray. This may be combined with bordeaux when bordeaux is needed, otherwise, use separately. Spray very thoroughly, work from the ground, using a driving, penetrating spray so that all parts of the tree are covered and the spray gets down to the angles of the leaf stems on spurs.

If the oil spray is not made in early spring, the trees should be sprayed with the nicotine sulphate, lime and casein spreader at the petal-fall period and again two weeks later. A severe infestation may make necessary another application later in the summer.

MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE

EXTENSION DIVISION
R. J. BALDWIN, Director

Printed and distributed in furtherance of the purposes of the co-operative agricultural extension work provided for in Act of Congress, May 8, 1914. Michigan State College of Agriculture and Applied Science and U. S. Department of Agriculture co-operating.

THE CONTENTS OF THE YEAR 1828