

solution may be used on very old and thick bark. A 33 per cent solution is sometimes used on young trees and roots.

“Following are directions for preparing 43 per cent zinc chloride solution: Add 3 ounces of concentrated hydrochloric acid to 2 pints of hot water in an enamel kettle, and dissolve in this mixture 6 pounds of dry zinc chloride powder. Commercial grades of the chemicals may be used. The solution may be heated to boiling, if necessary, to dissolve all of the zinc chloride. After cooling, add 7 pints of denatured alcohol. This solution may be kept for several years if stored in tightly stoppered bottles to prevent evaporation.”

“Workmen usually carry a damp cloth to wipe their hands, as the chemicals are irritating to the skin. A small amount of washing powder added to the damp cloth or wash water will neutralize the solution and check the caustic effect on the skin. It has been found that brushes used in applying the zinc chloride solution will last longer if rinsed in washing-soda water at the end of each day's work.”

Note.—The above treatments for fire blight are worth trying and represent progress. Those interested in receiving the circular from which the above was taken can request it from the Tennessee Agricultural Experiment Station, Knoxville, Tennessee.

BROWN ROT MUMMIES

W. D. Valleau

Brown rot mummies on the peach tree are one of the means of carrying the brown-rot fungus from one season to the next. The fungus is alive in the mummied fruit and it is also probable that it has spread from the rotted fruit into the twig carrying a canker in which the

fungus may be alive. If mummies have been left on the tree over winter it would be well during pruning to remove not only the mummy but the twig to which it is attached and thus reduce the amount of this type of carry-over. While it is best to remove the twigs and mummies from the orchard and destroy them at pruning time yet these mummies of last year's crop which are knocked from the tree during the winter are not likely to be a source of infection until a year from that spring. At that time the mummies which have become partly buried in soil or sod can send out vase-shaped honey-colored mushroom-like growths at about the time peaches come into bloom. The fruiting bodies produce spores in vast numbers. These spores may cause blossom blight or may cause infections in leaf curl affected twigs and leaves, and probably cause other types of infection not yet recognized. These early spring infections undoubtedly carry the fungus from spring to near the harvest time when fruit infections occur. Complete removal of rotted peaches from the trees and ground in the fall is desirable but where this is not done, thorough discing just before blooming will disturb the mummies sufficiently so that they will not produce spores that season. When spring discing is not employed it is much more necessary to remove all rotted peaches from trees and the ground at harvest time and destroy them.

STRAWBERRY POINTERS

(1) Spring nitrate fertilizer

It is generally recognized as unprofitable to make spring applications of nitrogen on bearing strawberry fields. Such applications have been tried out many times with unsatisfactory results. Some