

The Daily Bradford Reporter.

FAIR GROUNDS, EAST TOWANDA, PA., OCTOBER 3, 1879.

Bark Lice on Apple Trees.

Judicious pruning of the branches, draining the land where the trees stand, manuring the soil and keeping it free from grass and weeds, all have the effect to promote vigorous growth, and are, therefore, useful in preventing the depredations of bark lice. Unless a vigorous growth of a tree can be insured, it is of little use to apply substances to kill the lice. The little lady-bird, whose presence should always be welcome on farms, is the mortal enemy of the bark louse, as it is of many other sorts of insects. But hurtful insects increase so much faster than useful birds do that we may never expect to see the latter exterminate the former. Indeed, no amount of cultivation and no number of birds ever collected in an orchard will be sufficient to clear it of the scale of bark lice, if they are generally distributed among the trees.

If but a few trees have bark lice on them, and they are well covered with them, it is best to cut them down and burn them up. This heroic treatment will prevent their spreading to other trees. The time to kill the insects is when they begin to hatch. They are most readily killed by applying some wash to the bark with a stiff brush or swab. The articles most highly recommended for killing the lice are strong lye made of wood ashes, a solution of caustic soda or potash, diluted soft soap, and a mixture of lime whitewash and kerosene oil. If the latter is employed the proportions of the mixture should be one pint of kerosene to a gallon of the whitewash. Whatever substances are chosen should be applied thoroughly. To insure complete destruction of the insect a second application should be made some days after the first.

BACHELOR SAM SCUDDER, of Wild Cherry Creek, is quite bald. When the girls see him coming, they say, "Here comes Balsam of Wild Cherry," and then they all begin to cough.

PRUNE PIES.—Take a pound of prunes and soak them over night, so that the stones will slip out easily; stew in some water with as many raisins as you wish, and sweeten; use less water than for sauce; when both are soft, grate in the rind of two lemons and fill the pie, allowing two crusts.

APPLE TARTS.—Stew and strain tart apples; add cinnamon, rose water, boiled cider and sugar to taste; lay this in the above paste; squeeze thereon orange juice. Raspberry, currant and plum tarts may be made of preserves. Lay bars of paste across the top of the dish.

LAYER CAKES.—Two teacupfuls of granulated sugar; one half teacupful of butter; one teaspoonful of sweet milk, three eggs, three teacupfuls of flour; beat all the ingredients together, reserving a little of the flour to add last, with a teaspoonful of soda and two of cream-of-tartar. Bake in layers.

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