Swat the Chinch Bugs as They Pass from Wheat to Corn.

Ripening of small grain will force the bugs to move.

The great number of chinch bugs that passed through the winter successfully and made their way into fields of wheat, oats and rye this spring renders it almost certain that the brood of young bugs, which will develop in these fields, will assume dangerous proportions. At harvest time these bugs will be approaching maturity and the ripening of the wheat, oats and rye will deprive them of food and so force them to move in a body to other feeding grounds. Under the stress of hunger they will seek the nearest field that affords food, be it a field of the farmer that has a field of corn or other grain acceptable to the brood of young bugs, which will emerge next spring to continue the destruction of cereal crops. In eighteen inches deep. (2) Plow a deep furrow in place of a strip and reduce the sides and bottom of it to a V-shaped trough. In the bottom of the furrow at intervals of from ten to eighteen inches deep. (2) Plow a deep lister furrow in place of a strip and reduce the sides and bottom of it to a fine dust by dragging heavy brush back and forth in it and then sink post holes as directed in the preceding plan. Any defective places must be dressed up with a hoe or rake. So long as the sides of these furrows are covered with fine dust the bugs cannot get out of them, and, in their efforts to cross the furrow, the insects falling to the sides of the furrows, move along the bottom, where they fall into the post holes and may be destroyed with kerosene, or if the sun be hot many will perish in the superheated dust. In their per- sistent efforts to scale the sides of the furrow they will, if numerous, finally reach the dust from the sides sufficiently to permit them to cross. In this event the dust must be renewed or a new barrier constructed nearer the protected field. This barrier is rendered utterly worthless by even a light rain. Continued on page 2, column 1.
The coal-tar barrier.

The coal-tar barrier may be constructed in either of two ways. (1) Level off and firm down hard and smooth a strip free from weeds and grass about two feet wide by dragging over the surface a broad heavily-weighted plank or some similar object. To secure the best results the plank should be shod with zinc or some other metal that will slip readily on the surface. Rough and uneven places should be dressed off with hoe or shovel. Along on this smooth surface place a narrow line of coal-tar not less than three-fourths inch wide and then, as in the case of the dust barrier, sink post holes on the side next the bugs and as near the line as possible. It would be well to dig the holes first and place the tar line afterwards. Coal-tar is very offensive to the bugs and they refuse to cross it. In their efforts to find a crossing place they run along the line and crowd one another into the holes, where they may readily be destroyed with kerosene. (2) Instead of placing the tar on a level, throw up a back furrow and firm down hard and smooth both sides and top by dragging over it an inverted convex-bottomed trough. Place the tar line on top of the ridge thus formed and provide post holes as described above. In dry, windy weather some trouble is met in maintaining a tar-line barrier, owing to

Importance of attack at this time.

The importance of intercepting and destroying the chinch bugs as they abandon the wheat fields can hardly be overestimated. This opportunity for a direct attack upon them is the only one that will present itself until the bugs are again in winter quarters, and failure to take advantage of it means not only injury to the present crop, but also the probability of an increased number of bugs to go into winter quarters this fall and thus carry the danger over to another year. To destroy the bugs at harvest time will not be an easy task. It will mean hard, persistent work for several days, or perhaps a week. To make a success of the attack, all other work must be neglected while the bugs keep coming, but every farmer can afford to do this when by so doing he can keep a horde of bugs out of his corn. He should begin his preparations at once, provide himself with one or more barrels of coal-tar and a good spray pump (of the knap-sack or barrel type)—an article that is essential to every farm equipment. He must keep an eye on the bugs and be ready to drop any work he may have on hand and meet them as soon as they begin to move from the ripening grain. It is understood that the measures proposed herein are not intended to apply to the bugs that made their way into the corn in May.

Approved:

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