**ORCHARD PESTICIDES**

**Cumberland Mercury, Sat 14 Jan 1893**

A Flourishing Nursery Orchard.

The Beecroft Nursery Company.

All the trees right through this trimly-kept orchard (despite the late abnormal growth of weeds and grass) look remarkably free from any disease of any kind, clean in root, stem and leaf, and there is no appearance of the dreaded codlin moth. The trees are well sprayed with Paris Green, worked with a force pump and cyclone hose but Mr. Moran thinks the solution of 1lb. to 160 gallons of water too strong, as the leaves are occasionally burned by this arsenical preparation. He prefers, and has proved, and there is excellent for doing so, that 1lb to 200 gallons is a sufficiently powerful mixture. Before

**The Cumberland Mercury, Sat 8 Jul 1893**

Hornsby T., P. H., B. and C. Horticultural Association.

Regular Meeting.

A Successful Gathering.

 Mr. Hudson, Beecroft, showed two samples of early rose potatoes. By reading in the papers a statement to the effect that a Frenchman, by peculiar treatment, had succeeded in producing 42 tons of potatoes to the acre, he resolved to make the experiment. With each sample he had used No. 5 Sugar Co.’s manure; but one lot was treated with a solution of ammonia and nitrate of potash. Mr. Hudson was inclined to the belief that good would result from such treatment, but admitted he had not given the plants very careful cultivation. For a late crop the sample was very creditable.

**Cumberland Mercury (Parramatta, NSW: 1875 - 1895), Saturday 15 July 1893, page 4**

Pennant Hills and Beecroft.

(FROM OUR OWN REPORTER.)

WEATHER. - Bright sunshine has prevailed during the day-time of the past ten days, with sharp frosts at night. Indeed, on three nights the frosts were the most severe yet experienced in the district, doing very considerable damage in the orchards and gardens; and it is said that at Meadow Bank the weather in this respect was even more destructive.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 19 August 1893, page 8**

Beecroft.

Meeting. - On Saturday, the. 19th inst., the committee meeting of the Hornsby, T.P.H.B. and C. Horticultural Association will be held at Mr. Moran's residence, when it is intended to arrange to give prizes for competition at the monthly meetings of the Association.

Orchards. - Work at the Beecroft orchard under the genial manager, Mr. Moran, is in full swing. On the property a first-class poultry shed and yards have just been completed, and some very choice birds are here to be seen, especially in the line of Plymouth Rocks. Spraying is now being done among the summer fruits in order to stop any progress being made in the way of the fungus to which the peach trees are very much subjected. Both the Nixon single and full spray, as well as the triple cyclone spray, are in use. The latter seems to be the favourite, as there is not near so much wash wasted as there is with the

others. It is also more handy for spraying low trees, as you can turn it as you please. The wash which Mr. Moran is using consists of the following: 40lb. lime, 20lb. sulphur and 15lb salt. This combination is all thoroughly boiled until the sulphur is well dissolved and should make 50 gallons of wash of a clear amber colour. This wash Mr. Moran considers to be a real good one, and he kindly gives the information for the benefit of others. The present time is the best for using same, as it is very severe when the blossom is any way open or the leaves beginning to shoot, which, in fact, it will destroy. Mr. Moran also says with reference to the blight on the apple trees, that a proper use of lime in the ground where the trees are planted is a very great preventive, and he considers the blight is very often caused through the ground not containing enough lime nature. He has also proved that there is a great deal more lime in the ash of a Northern Spy apple tree than one of any of our ordinary apple trees, and also that the fact of the blight not being in the Northern districts is due to the land there containing considerable lime properties.

**Cumberland Mercury (Parramatta, NSW: 1875 - 1895), Saturday 2 September 1893, page 6**

Beecroft.

Beecroft Orchard.

A considerable staff of men is now employed on this extensive property, under the personal supervision of the manager, Mr. G. B. Moran. Clearing new ground is going on in one place, fencing in another, digging and manuring in those portions of the estate already under cultivation.

Three kinds of manure are being used, viz: - lime for apple trees; Sugar Company's No. 2. manure for the Citrus family; and for the summer fruit trees, Homebush manure mixed with bone dust, which has been stacked for twelve months. Spraying operations were completed last week, ana the trees present a pretty appearance in their coats of pearl-grey pest destroyer. Mr. Moran's mixture is composed as follows: - 40 lbs lime, 20 lbs sulphur, 15 lbs salt. Boil this in sufficient water until the sulphur is all dissolved: it will take about four hours: then water to make the mixture up to 50 galls. To eradicate the woolly blight from the apple trees, the solution is applied by means of a hand pump and the "Nixon nozzle," sold by Messrs. Murray Bros, of Parramatta: for general spraying purposes the "triple cyclone nozzle " is used. This is a capital implement, as with it every part of a branch or leaf is easily reached.

**Cumberland Mercury, Sat 9 Sep 1893**

East Pennant Hills.

The Codlin Moth.

The business of the evening was the reading of a paper by Mr. Moran (V.P.), upon the Codlin Moth. Mr. Moran stated that he did not propose to deal with the subject in an exhaustive manner. He desired rather to invite attention to the pest, which during the past few years was becoming more and more pronounced; and likely to prove, exceedingly destructive.

**Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW: 1883 - 1930), Saturday 13 January 1894, page 4**

A CODLIN MOTH TRAP.

At a meeting of the pomological committee of the Department of Agriculture on Thursday, a simple and efficacious codlin moth trap was submitted by Mr. Morgan, of Goulburn, one of the members of the committee, and was very favorably commented upon. The trap consists of two pieces of ¾in. deal about 4in. broad, and 16 to 18in. long, hinged together at one end with a strip of zinc, so as to allow the two pieces to be folded together or opened easily. Some thick brown paper is placed between the two pieces of board which are then tied tightly together by string at the unhinged ends. The trap is now ready for use, and is placed at the foot of the tree. Care must be taken that all other shelter in the shape of loose bark, etc., is first carefully removed, when all the larvae of the moth, upon being fully developed, and looking for a place in which to pupate, will take refuge between the boards of the trap, where they may be easily destroyed. From one of the traps exhibited, Mr. Morgan has taken this season as many as 80 larvae of the moth in three days, and when opened before the meeting the two traps must have contained 100 fully developed larva. An improvement in the trap was suggested by replacing the zinc hinges by leather ones. The easiest way to destroy the larvae caught in the traps is to place the traps bodily in boiling water. The larvae should not be crushed and allowed to remain in the traps, as, if so, the traps will become infested with small ants, which will prevent any more larvae from taking shelter in the traps. The traps should be examined every three to five days.

**Cumberland Mercury (Parramatta, NSW: 1875 - 1895), Saturday 10 March 1894, page 2**

Castle Hill.

The Orchards all along the road now looks very uninteresting; the only fruit visible is a few quinces, and the coming crop of oranges and lemons, which promises well. The loquat trees are bursting into bloom, with very good prospects.

**The Cumberland Argus, Sat 18 Aug 1894**

**Progress Association.**

**Beecroft Orchard.**

This grand estate, the property of Mr. Leslie Herring, is now well worth a visit, and the enthusiastic manager, Mr. G. B. Moran, is very pleased to see visitors. Ploughing amongst the trees is finished, and the absence of weeds is remarkable. Pruning operations are at an end, and the many summer fruit trees have been subjected to the purifying influence of an insect-destroying mixture, evenly distributed by the triple-cyclone nozzle. This work has been interrupted by the high winds, but will be resumed when more favourable weather sets in. The trees already operated upon, just stand out in bold relief against the dark soil and surrounding background of forest, like a theatrical picture of a Canadian snow scene. Should the spraying of the tree subdue the codlin moth, woolly aphis, and other such cunning’ jokers as work havoc in orchards, then assuredly these trees will be free of disease for a time at any rate. Very little fruit is left in the orchard; but the oranges and lemons still hanging are exceptionally fine.

**Cumberland Mercury (Parramatta, NSW: 1875 - 1895), Saturday 1 September 1894, page 10**

Beecroft.

Owing to the very high winds which have prevailed lately, spraying operations in the orchards have been much interfered with. The ground is very dry, and rain is badly needed. Beecroft Nursery.

Mr. Leslie Herring, proprietor of the model Beecroft Nursery, has been seriously considering the outlook of the future fruit trade. He has rightly come to the conclusion that very soon only the best grades of fruit will be acceptable in the markets, and the balance will have to be preserved in some form, or recklessly wasted—an alternative which is by no means pleasing. It is quite on the cards, therefore, that before very long a preserving establishment will add to the commercial Importance of Beecroft. With Mr. Herring supplying the fruit, and Mr. Abram the honey, there ought to develop a very profitable business. Concerning the Nursery and its reputation, the manager, Mr. G. B. Moran, invites attention to a statement which has recently appeared in the metropolitan press in connection with the Mildura show. It was said that at Mildura there were three varieties of oranges new to New South Wales, namely, the paper-rind St. Michael, a beautiful, thin-skinned little orange about the size of a mandarin; the Homosana, an almost seedless orange, the tree of which is thorny, and the Mediterranean Sweet." Mr. Moran continues - "The St. Michael and Mediterranean Sweet have been established in this orchard some two years; and fine fruits from the trees were exhibited at Hornsby Junction, some twelve months ago, on the night that Mr. G. E. Hooke lectured there upon fruit-preserving, under the auspices of the H., T., P. Hs., B. and C. Association. The Mildura people, even if they did, under strained circumstances, secure first honors for citrus fruits, need not flatter themselves that they alone have everything which is good."

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 24 October 1896, page 10**

Pennant Hill.

The Orange Rust. — Dr. Cobb and Mr. Groose, “The Agricultural Departmental Artists” visited Mr. Owen's orchard on Friday week last for the purpose of taking photos and specimens of diseased orange trees, limbs and fruit. Experiments are now being tried with Bordeaux mixture, and chemical manures containing principally phosphoric acid, potash, and sulphurate of iron. The officers do not advise the use of bush leaves, as organic manures encourage fungus diseases. Persons wishing to note the effect of the experiments on the trees now, and in 12 months' time, can do so at the above-named orchard.

**Cumberland Mercury (Parramatta, NSW: 1875 - 1895), Saturday 15 December 1894, page 4**

FRUIT PRESERVING.

The petition recently circulated L by Mr. A. L. Hinton asking the Minister for Mines and Agriculture, to appoint practical demonstrators in the art of fruit-preserving, has met with a most cordial reception. The documents have been returned from Smithfield, Pennant Hills, Beecroft and Prospect, in which districts they were very numerously signed. In Penrith, Mulgoa, and St. Mary's, the Mayors of these municipalities took the matter in hand quite warmly, and their copies will probably be to hand within a few days. In the last named-place, the matter was dealt with at a largely attended special public meeting. Going further afield, the Liverpool Plains P. A. & H. Association considered the question at its regular monthly meeting, when the President, Hon. Secretary, and full committee signed the petition; and passed a resolution authorising the Secretary to secure to it the' names of prominent fruit-growers. The importance of this subject can scarcely be over-estimated, particularly in view of the tons upon tons of fruit which are annually wasted in the orchards; and frequently so through no fault of the growers. It is to be hoped this quite justifiable request will be dealt with favorably and promptly by the Minister.

**Daily Telegraph (Sydney, NSW: 1883 - 1930), Saturday 15 April 1899, page 4**

FRUIT EXPORT TRADE.

CITRUS CROP PROSPECTS.

"Telemulsion" Is being more and more extensively used, and is invariably found successful where properly made and used. In compliance with several requests, we republish the formula. This is the more necessary as it has been copied by a number of publications, which either from carelessness or Ignorance, or possibly from a desire to disguise the thing, have altered It In vital points, or omitted essentials in such a way as to lead to confusion anil possible loss.

A correspondent wrote this week to ask for an explanation of a difficulty in making the pesticide, and it was found he had been trying to work by a formula published by someone else, which proved to have omitted one all-essential ingredient. This is the recipe for the genuine "telemulsion” - tried, tested, and triumphantly successful since first given in "The Daily Telegraph" of March 18: —

Take 10oz. soft soap and 2oz. ordinary yellow washing soap, scraped fine, to which add one gallon of water, and boil till the soap Is dissolved; then add gradually, one gallon of blue oil (sometimes called wood-preserving oil), working the mixture well together all the time. An old otherwise-useless churn would do well for this purpose, or the mixture may be put in a tub or bucket, and repeatedly drawn into and ejected from a syringe. The object is to secure a perfect blending of the ingredients, and if successful the product will be a rich-looking, creamy emulsion, without any trace of free oil. If any free oil shows, It is a sign either that It requires more working, or that the proportion of soap was not sufficient, and a little more properly dissolved may be added, and the working-up resumed. To treat the trees, mix one pint of emulsion with 30 pints of water, in winter, and in spring use it a little weaker — say, one to 10. Apply to trees with a sprayer, and not too freely.

Any variation of the foregoing produces a compound which may do the work as well — it is not to be supposed the final word has been said on the matter. But it is at the risk of the experimenter. The formula as given Is that we recommend, because It Is the one we have had tested, and know to be efficacious.

**Camden News (NSW: 1895 - 1954), Thursday 30 August 1900, page 2**

TELEMULSION.

Take 1 gallon water in which dissolve 20 ozs. soft soap and 4 oz. hard yellow soap, the latter to be scraped thin to allow of quickly dissolving. Soon as this is dissolved add gently 1 gallon blue wood preserving oil, take a syringe and draw this mixture up and force through, keeping the syringe under the surface for a couple of minutes and the mixture will become a creamy emulsion. For winter add 1 to 30 of water and for spring when in leaf 1 to 40 of water.

**Richmond River Herald and Northern Districts Advertiser (NSW: 1886 - 1942), Friday 29 March 1901, page 3**

Pure Kerosene for San Jose Scale.

Further reports are to hand as to the effectiveness of pure kerosene, applied carefully with a brush, in destroying San Jose scale on deciduous fruit trees. In a letter to the fruit expert, Mr. F. Mason, of Beecroft, says: “I wish to tell you that I painted, on August 23 last, eighteen

Carrington Apple trees with pure kerosene, and also four Nelson apple trees, on September 17, that were all badly affected with this terrible San Jose scale. The trees are now looking well, and there is not a scale to be seen on any of them. I have a number of Carrington apple trees that have not been so treated for the pest, and they are very badly affected. Some of the trees are suffering badly, and the fruit is literally dotted all over with the young scales. I shall be pleased if you can kindly tell me what to do with these.” When the scales attack fruit it is difficult to devise any economical method of destroying them. With a pest like San Jose scale the only really effectual means of destruction is to attack the scales in winter while the trees are bare of leaves, and after pruning. All prunings should be carefully collected and burnt, and the tree either treated with pure kerosene or fumigated with hydrocyanic acid gas. The kerosene method is, however, so simple and efficacious that unless one has extended use for a fumigating outfit for the destruction of scale in citrus trees, it is scarcely worthwhile going to further expense in procuring one. — Agricultural Gazette.

**Cumberland Argus and Fruitgrowers Advocate (Parramatta, NSW: 1888 - 1950), Saturday 9 November 1901, page 7**

ORCHARD NOTES.

The caterpillars are very numerous this year on the grape vines, and those who neglect to fight them will go short of grapes. An up-to-date grower informs us that he has no trouble, with the caterpillars. He gives the vines one dressing with Paris green, and that is quite sufficient. One ounce of Paris green, mixed with 10 gallons of water, is the proper strength. Soft soap, mixed in the proportion of 10lbs to 50 gallons of water, will have the effect of making the poison adhere to the leaves, and a small meal of this is sufficient. This remedy is guaranteed to be sure and certain, and one application will suffice. Nikoteen is also very efficacious.

**Sydney Morning Herald, Mon 21 Jul 1902**

AGRICULTURAL AND PASTORAL.

BEECROFT, Sunday.

Mr. Edwin Smith, a well-known orchardist, has used a preparation of flour-starch in spraying mandarin trees for red scale with excellent results.

In Mr. F. Mason's orchard, close by, the citrus trees were sprayed with a composition of resin, caustic soda, and fish oil. This was efficacious, but it was found that the scale, though destroyed, adhered to the fruit until the rain came to wash it off.

**Australian Town and Country Journal (Sydney), Wed 4 Dec 1907**

THE FRUITGROWER.

In the Cumberland District.

NO. VII.

BY UNICORN.

PLYMPTON ORCHARD.

FRUIT PESTS.

Speaking of fruit pests, Mr. Tucker said: "The diseases I have been troubled with most

so far as citrus fruits are concerned have been the red scale, white louse, and the Indian wax scale. This last-named has only recently made its appearance, and has not done the same amount of damage to the trees as the others. The treatment for all of the above diseases I have found most efficacious is spraying with a solution known as Telemulsion in a mixture of kerosene and soft soap in about 1gal of kerosene to 30gal of water and about 7lb of soft soap. For fungus diseases I use the Bordeaux mixture, and have found it to act well. I also use the Bordeaux mixture for summer fruit diseases such as shot hole, fungus in apricots, and black spot, on pears and apples.

"For the codlin moth I believe in bandaging the trees and spraying with Paris green. Owing no doubt to the dry seasons experienced for -the past decade, there ls a remarkable absence of woolly aphis, but spraying with Telemulsion is the best remedy I know of for that pest. As to the fruit fly, we can only hope by the careful picking up and burning of fruit affected by the fly - both citrus and summer fruits - to eradicate this pest. I did try netting a few choice peach-trees as a protection against the fly and had wonderfully successful results, the fruit coming to maturity and showing no signs of the fly. I had the whole tree enveloped in cheese cloth, and the slight shading improved the colouring of the fruit greatly."

**Worker (Wagga, NSW: 1892 - 1913), Thursday 21 September 1911, page 10**

LAY OF THE LAND.

Mr. W. Abram Beecroft writes to a Sydney daily paper to protest against the destruction of bees, which, he says, accompanies the early spraying of fruit trees with poisonous compounds. The orchardist is compelled by law to spray immediately after the fall of the petals, and, Mr. Beecroft says, does not always wait till the later trees have completed their blooming. The consequence is that net only is the production of some fruit prevented, but the bees, the best fertilising agents, are sadly thinned out. American scientists, he adds, assert that spraying would better be delayed till after the fruit is set.