

All are apparently fairly common and widely distributed and live in close association with each other in nature.

(to be continued)

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### NEWS AND VIEWS

PRACTICAL CONTROL FOR EUROPEAN CORN BORER ON EARLY MARKET SWEET CORN.

A recent press release from the United States Department of Agriculture informs us that a practical way to control the European corn borer on early market sweet corn has been found after years of work by State and Federal entomologists.

Recent tests by entomologists of the U. S. Department of Agriculture and the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station show that several compounds are effective and practical in saving sweet corn, particularly the early varieties that bring prices high enough to justify the extra expense of using the insecticides. Whether or not these insecticides can ever be recommended for borer control on canning corn and field corn depends on the results of tests now in progress.

The promising new borer insecticides are: (1) Nicotine tannate solutions prepared from nicotine, a common insecticidal material, and Chinese gallo-tannin, an easily available form of tannic acid; (2) derris sprays, made from the ground roots of a plant imported from the Far East in large quantities for the insecticide industry; (3) phenothiazine (a compound of sulphur and a commercially available dye intermediate) spray; and (4) nicotine dust, a mixture of nicotine tannate powder and powdered nicotine bentonite (a compound of nicotine and common clay). None of these preparations come ready mixed and the mixing of some of them is rather complicated, the entomologists say.

The nicotine tannate solutions have been found most dependable in the Department's tests. Detailed directions for preparing and using the new insecticides may be obtained from the Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C. and from the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, at Storrs.

Time is important in using corn borer insecticides. They must be applied during the comparatively brief period the caterpillar spends on the outside of the plant. In eastern Connecticut this usually is between June 10 and 30. The first hatching of the egg masses is the signal to start spraying or dusting. The applications must cover the leaves, emerging tassel, developing ear, junction of leaf blades with stem, and tiller growth.