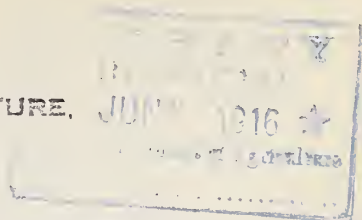


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE,
BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

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FOREST ENTOMOLOGY.

Brief V. THE DYING HICKORY TREES ON LONG ISLAND, NEW YORK,
CAUSED BY THE HICKORY BARKBEETLE.

The Remedy.

One of the primary requisites and the first thing to be considered in a movement for the protection of the hickory trees of a community is for the owners to note all trees with fading and dying foliage and mark them as directed in Brief IV.

Beginning about the first of November and ending about the first of June, the marked trees should be felled and disposed of in such a manner as to destroy the broods of the beetles which overwinter in the middle portion of the inner bark. All such infested material must be disposed of by the time the healthy trees are in full foliage which, depending upon the season, will be from the middle of May to the first week in June. It will be a few days earlier at the western end than at the eastern end of the Island.

Methods of Combating the Beetle.

A - Fell the marked trees and convert them into cordwood or other commercial products that will be utilized in such a way as to insure the destruction of the broods in the bark before the first of June. When there is a sufficient quantity of infested trees, within a community, they can often be sold to handle and spoke manufacturers or given to them under a guarantee that all are to be removed and the refuse burned within the specified time. The product from the infested trees will usually be quite as good, either for cordwood or handles, as if cut from living trees and should be worth much more for such purposes than the total cost of cutting, transportation and the burning of the refuse.

B - If for any reason it is desired to hold the more valuable portions of the trees for use after the time limit for destroying the broods in the bark, the bark can be removed and burned with the tops, or the wood with the bark on can be placed in water and kept submerged for a week or ten days to kill the broods of the beetle in the bark.

C - When the infested trees can not be utilized for any purpose, they should be felled, hauled in piles, and burned and the ashes saved to use as fertilizer for shade trees and ornamental shrubs.

If one or more of these methods are adopted and all or even but two-thirds or one-half of the infestation of an entire community is disposed of, it will save the remaining healthy hickory trees from further attack for several years. If this is followed by a very little attention to preventive measures, such as the removal and prevention of the breeding places in weakened and felled trees the beetle can be kept under control indefinitely.

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