

# **GARDEN RECEIPTS**

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649503063

Garden Receipts by Charles W. Quin

Except for use in any review, the reproduction or utilisation of this work in whole or in part in any form by any electronic, mechanical or other means, now known or hereafter invented, including xerography, photocopying and recording, or in any information storage or retrieval system, is forbidden without the permission of the publisher, Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd, PO Box 1576 Collingwood, Victoria 3066 Australia.

All rights reserved.

Edited by Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd.  
Cover @ 2017

This book is sold subject to the condition that it shall not, by way of trade or otherwise, be lent, re-sold, hired out, or otherwise circulated without the publisher's prior consent in any form or binding or cover other than that in which it is published and without a similar condition including this condition being imposed on the subsequent purchaser.

[www.triestepublishing.com](http://www.triestepublishing.com)

**CHARLES W. QUIN**

**GARDEN  
RECEIPTS**



# GARDEN RECEIPTS

EDITED BY

CHARLES W. QUIN



London:  
MACMILLAN AND CO.

1877

101 h 160.

## PREFACE.

---

EVERY ONE familiar with a garden knows that one of the chief cares therein is combating the various insects and other pests that infest it. Without clear knowledge and continued attention in this way much of the labour and expense devoted to the garden will be thrown away. The object of this book is the collection, in a handy form, of information on this and other topics embraced under the general heading of "Garden Receipts." Great pains have been taken to make the collection of Receipts, &c., as complete as possible. A great variety being given for one purpose, is justified by the fact that one remedy easily applied in a given district may be too expensive in another; and by the extreme difficulty of getting rid of many of the pests alluded to in these pages. The Glossary of the materials used is made a special feature, and is as complete as possible. Although the arrangement of both the Receipts and Glossary is alphabetical, a copious Index has been added to facilitate reference.



## GARDEN RECEIPTS.

---

### American Blight.

THE AMERICAN BLIGHT (*Aphis lanigera* or *Eriosoma Mali*) is most destructive to Apple trees, breeds fast, and spreads with great rapidity. In the garden or orchard, where it makes its appearance on a single tree, if left unmolested, it will soon be found in quantity on the surrounding trees, even at a considerable distance. It establishes itself in any crack or inequality in the bark, and breeds in quantity, giving the trees for a portion of the year the appearance of being partially coated with cotton-wool. Like most other insects that attack the bark of plants, the injury it effects is not so soon apparent as in the case of such insects as confine their depredations almost exclusively to the leaves. It causes unsightly protuberances on the bark, and ultimately reduces the trees which it attacks to a stunted, unhealthy condition. It is difficult to completely eradicate it, its destruction being well-nigh impossible when it once gets established in large orchards. The amount of labour it would require to eradicate it when it attacks large trees would preclude the possibility of attempting the experiment, but in moderate-sized gardens where the trees are small, it can be destroyed, especially if there be no delay in taking means for its destruction as soon as its presence is discovered.

*Brushing.*—This has often proved a remedy if applied early. Provide a small flat brush, shaped like a diamond, and measuring about 5 in. in length by 2 in. in width; with this brush scrub all infected parts, and the bugs will disappear. Unquestionably, some which lie more immediately under the rough bark may subsequently show themselves, but, if the new enemies be attacked as often as they display their downy bed on espaliers and dwarf standards, they will give no further trouble. A small brush, called a spoka brush, may also be used with advantage where access to the insect is difficult from the range of the branches.



*Cus Liquor.*—Mr. Baines has used the ammoniacal liquor from the gas-works with great success. He says:—"Some years ago Woolly Aphis made its appearance on half-a-dozen trained Apple trees at one corner of the garden. One of these was of an inferior kind, consequently I determined to experiment upon it. First, I procured from the gas-works some ammoniacal liquid; one-half of the tree I painted over with the liquor (full strength), the other half with it diluted with water to the extent of one-half. The application was made as soon as the leaves had fallen in autumn. The destruction of the insects was complete, as also the tree on the side dressed with the liquor in its undiluted state: the other side painted over with the liquor diluted was not injured in the least; nevertheless, I would advise any one using this remedy not to use the liquor in a stronger state than one-third to two-thirds water, for although on several subsequent occasions I used it at the strength of half water with the most effectual result, and without injury to the trees, yet I believe that the liquor obtainable in some places is much stronger than in others."

*Goose-grease and Sulphur.*—Mix goose-grease and flowers of sulphur together, in the proportion of 8 oz. of the former to 2 oz. of the latter, and apply with a paint-brush.

*Lime.*—Take  $\frac{1}{2}$  peck of quicklime,  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. of flowers of sulphur, and  $\frac{1}{2}$  lb. of lamp-black. Mix with boiling water, so as to form a thick paint; with this, in winter, when the leaves are off, paint the branches, having first removed all loose bark. Remove the soil from the bottom of the stem to the main roots, and paint the roots as far as they are exposed. The paint should be warm when used. When it has become dry, the trees should be looked over, and all cracks and holes stopped with well-worked clay. After frost, the clay stoppings should be dressed again, to close any cracks that may occur. In France, Apple trees suffering from American Blight are treated in the following manner:—"The earth is removed from about the roots, on which a quantity of slaked lime is deposited; after this the earth is replaced. The remedy is said to be quite successful."

*Oil.*—In the case of trees in pots, Mr. D. S. Gillett, of the Court Gardens, Great Marlow, recommends that they should be thoroughly painted over with ordinary linseed oil, the operation to be repeated if necessary. Train oil and other fresh oils have been used with success, but in applying these care should be taken not to touch the buds. Coal-tar, naphtha, paraffin oil, and petroleum, laid on with a paint-brush have

been used with good effect. Paraffin oil and petroleum may be safely used upon hard wood, but not upon wood that is green and tender.

*Soda and Turpentine.*—Dissolve 1 lb. of soda in a gallon of rain-water; shake this up in a vessel with a pint of spirits of turpentine until they amalgamate; add more water to make the quantity up to 10 gallons. Apply to the trees with a garden-engine or syringe having a fine rose.

*Soft Soap.*—M. Charles Joly, the Vice-President of the Central Horticultural Society of France, gives the following remedy for eradicating this troublesome pest:—To 7 lbs. of soft soap add 1 lb. of train oil, two or three handfuls of soot, and flowers of sulphur are to be mixed with a pailful of lime-water. When thoroughly incorporated throw in sufficient powdered clay to make the mixture of the consistency of butter. Spread a cloth beneath the affected tree, and scrape off all the Moss and bark which seem to be attacked by the Aphis, taking care to trim the rough portions of the bark and to clear out the crevices. Remove the cloth and burn everything that has fallen on it, and paint the whole of the trunk of the tree and the lower branches with the soap mixture, giving an extra dose to all crevices and cracks. Autumn is the best time for the operation, as the winter rains wash the soap mixture off the tree down to the roots, amongst which a few of the Aphides that escaped the soap mixture may have taken refuge. It cannot be too frequently repeated that the Woolly Aphis always takes up its winter quarters round the collar of the root, a fact that is too frequently lost sight of.

#### Ants.

The following methods of destroying these troublesome pests have been gathered from various sources:—

*Alum Water.*—Take 2 lbs. of alum and dissolve it in three or four quarts of boiling water, letting it stand on the fire until the alum is all dissolved; then apply it with a brush while nearly boiling hot to every joint and crevice in closets, pantry shelves, and the like. Brush the crevices in the floor of the skirting or mop-boards if there be any suspicion that they harbour ants.

*Bones.*—An effectual way of destroying ants in places where boiling water cannot be used is to lay half-picked bones about. These will soon be covered with ants, and can then be thrown into a vessel of boiling water, after which they should be again

laid down to attract a fresh batch of victims. By persisting in the use of this trap a house will be completely cleared of ants in a short time; the sooner, of course, in proportion to the number of bones employed.

*Camphor*.—If the ants have formed their nest at the root of a plant, pour upon them a quart or so of warm water, in which a piece of camphor, the size of a Hazel Nut, has been steeped. This thoroughly destroys them, and is not in the least injurious to the plant. Camphor placed wherever table linen is kept is said to drive away ants most effectually.

*Carbolic acid*.—Some years ago, says a correspondent in the "Times," at my house in the country a colony of ants established themselves under the kitchen flooring. Not knowing the exact locality of the nest, I endeavoured to destroy the insects with treacle, sugar, arsenic, &c., but although I slew numbers thus the plague still increased. At last, bethinking myself that ants dislike the smell of tar, I procured some carbolic acid, and diluting it with about a dozen times its weight of water, I squirted a pint of mixture through the air-bricks under the flooring, and my enemies vanished that day never to return. It has always been successful.

*Carbolic Soap, Brook's Liquid*.—Mix a very small thumb-potful of this liquid with a gallon of water, and sprinkle the ants with it. It kills them instantly; it mixes with the water at once without any trouble.

*Chalk*.—To prevent ants from climbing trees scrape the bark in a ring about 2 in. wide around the tree; then take a piece of chalk and rub it on the ring all round till no green bark can be seen. The moment the ants' feet touch the chalk it offers no solid footing, and they fall back, not one being able to ascend. A chalk mark, at least half an inch in breadth, around the upper edge of sugar barrels, boxes, &c., will not admit one ant into the interior. The same mark drawn on the edges of shelves will also prevent the approach of an ant. The chalk mark must, of course, be perfectly continuous.

*Flower-pot Trap*.—Suppose a colony of ants to be commencing operations on a lawn, it is an easy matter to trap them all by placing a large empty flower-pot, with the hole stopped, over it. The ants will build up into the pot, and in a short time it may be lifted with a shovel and carried away and dropped into a vessel of water, which will make an end of them.

*Flowers of Sulphur*.—Flowers of sulphur are very useful in checking ants where boiling water cannot be used.