

# Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station

NEW HAVEN, CONN.

W. L. SLATE, JR., *Director.*

---

## Bulletin of Immediate Information, No. 26

August 15, 1923

### THE APPLE AND THORN SKELETONIZER.

By W. E. BRITTON, *State Entomologist.*

Unsprayed apple trees throughout Connecticut are now turning brown on account of injury by the Apple and Thorn Skeletonizer (*Hemerophila pariana* Clerck). Two broods of caterpillars have fed upon the trees, but most of the damage has been caused by the second brood. As there are three broods each year, another brood is yet to follow and considerable further injury may be expected. Orchards which have been properly sprayed are not injured. This pest is an European insect first discovered in this country in Westchester County, New York, in 1817. It first appeared in Connecticut at Greenwich and Stamford late in 1920; since then it has spread rapidly all over the State and as far north as Amherst, Massachusetts. Further information regarding habits and life history may be obtained by consulting Bulletin No. 246 of this Station.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS.

If trees are entirely brown, no treatment will help them this season. If they still bear some green foliage they should be sprayed at once with arsenate of lead to prevent further injury. One and one-half pounds of the dry powder will be sufficient for 50 gallons of spray mixture.

---

Insects and fungi or other specimens may be sent to the Station for identification.