WHEN TO APPLY

pples. When most of the blossom buds show pink. When most of the petals have fallen. About every two weeks until the last of June or early July. This usually will be a total of six sprays. Do not spray summer varieties within three weeks of harvest time.

Pears. When most of the petals have fallen. Two or three more sprays at about two-week intervals.

Peaches and Plums. When the petals have fallen, and follow with three or more sprays at about 12 to 14-day intervals. To more effectively control brown rot on the fruit, use wettable sulfur, beginning about one month before ripening time. Apply sulfur at 7 to 14-day intervals up to picking time. With wet weather at this time, follow the shorter interval (7 to 8 days between sprays). Use microfine wettable sulfur at the rate of 2 lbs. in 50 gals. (1 level cupful in 5 gals., or at the rate given on the package.)

NOTE: DISCONTINUE USE OF THE GENERAL-PURPOSE SPRAY AT LEAST ONE MONTH BEFORE PICKING TIME.

Cherries. When the petals have fallen, follow with one or two more sprays at 10 to 14-day intervals, depending upon the development of the fruit. Do not apply these sprays after the fruit has started to color. Apply one, and preferably two, sprays after the fruit has been harvested.

Grapes. Start spraying when most of the new shoots are ½ to 1 inch long and continue spraying at 12 to 14-day intervals for three weeks after bloom, but if possible, avoid spraying when in full bloom.

Raspberries, Dewberries, Boysenberries, Gooseberries, and Currants. Start spraying when the first leaves begin unfolding and continue at 10 to 14-day intervals until blooming begins. Do not apply these sprays after the fruit has started to develop.

By varying a few days the time for applying some of the sprays on certain crops, it is possible to spray many of the fruits at the same time. Such adjustments will have to be made by each grower to fit into the season and the kinds of varieties of fruits being grown.

These combination sprays have not been tested extensively enough to determine their degree of safety under widely varying weather conditions and on the many different kinds and varieties of fruits that may be found in home plantings. Present information indicates that they are generally safe and effective, but if at any time noticeable injury appears, discontinue the spray on the affected variety or varieties.

* On peaches, add Ferbam at the rate of 2 lbs. to 100 gals or ½ cupful in 5 gals. for peach-leaf curl.

John M. Amos
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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS
VIRGINIA POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE AND THE U.S. D.A. COOPERATING

GENERAL-PURPOSE SPRAYS FOR HOME FRUIT PLANTINGS

Nearly every home gardener who wishes to grow several fruits fails to control the insects and diseases that attack them, because of the variety of chemicals needed on different plants. The purpose of this leaflet is to suggest a spray mixture that can be applied to practically all fruits grown around the home.

These formulae are based on work done in Missouri, but they are being tested in home gardens in Virginia this year on apples, pears, cherries, grapes, peaches, plums, raspberries, blackberries, and other fruits.

Formula No. 1

Ferbam	1½ lbs.	(Actual toxicant 1.14 lbs.)
DDT (50% wettable powder)	1½ lbs.	(" " 0.75 lbs.)
DDD (50% wettable powder)	1½ lbs.	(" " 0.75 lbs.)
Lindane (25% wettable powder)*	1 lb.	(" " 0.25 lbs.)

*Other preparations according to lindane content.

Formula No. 2

Ferbam	1½ lbs.	(Actual toxicant 1.14 lbs.)
DDD (50% wettable powder)	1½ lbs.	(" " 0.75 lbs.)
Methoxychlor (50% wettable powder)	2 lbs.	(" " 1.00 lbs.)

Home preparations must be thoroughly mixed and stored in a tight container.

Formula No. 2 is not very effective against aphids but is more effective against curculio. If curculio presents a greater problem than aphids, use Formula No. 2.

Neither of these spray formulae are adequate as dormant sprays for the control of scale insects, nor do they provide for the control of mites which may become a problem as a result of the use of these general-purpose sprays. Special sprays will be needed to control mites.

HOW MUCH TO USE

The amounts of general-purpose sprays to use on various fruit crops are as follows:

Formula No. 1: Use 5½ lbs. to 100 gals. of water or a strong ¼ lb. to 5 gals.
Formula No. 2: Use 5 lbs. to 100 gals. of water or ¼ lb. to 5 gals.

SPECIAL SPRAYS

Dormant Sprays: A dormant application should be applied to apples, pears, peaches,* plums, cherries, and currants for the control of scale, and, in some cases, mites. Use a miscible dormant oil at the rate of 3 gals. in 100 gals. of spray, or 2½ cups in 5 gals.

Apply in the early spring before growth starts and at a time when the spray will dry before freezing.

Mite Spray: Mites may become numerous during July and August and require control measures. For mite control, use DN111 at 1¼ lbs. per 100 gals. (3¼ tablespoons in 5 gals.), or Arathane at 1 lb. per 100 gal. (6 tablespoons in 5 gals.).