

REPORT OF OBSERVATION OF INJURIOUS INSECTS AND COMMON FARM  
PESTS DURING THE YEAR 1888, BY MISS ELEANOR A. ORMEROD.  
F. R. Met. Soc., Etc.

The Twelfth Annual Report of our esteemed corresponding member, Miss Ormerod, has just come to hand, and is of great interest and utility not only to English readers, for whom it is specially prepared, but also for enlightened people in all parts of the world. The same general principles underlie the methods of prevention and remedy, for the injuries done to crops by insects wherever they may occur, and the practical common sense shown by Miss Ormerod in the careful discussion and treatment of the different attacks mentioned in the present report, added to the experience she has gained after years of constant study in a special line, should demand the recognition of the talented authoress as a public benefactor by the thoughtless millions who daily benefit from her labours in low prices for many of the necessities of life. Ten per cent is a very low estimate of the amount of annual injury done to farm crops by insects, and this frequently runs up to 15, 25, or even 50 per cent. Of this large amount of loss, by far the greater part could be saved if our farmers and gardeners would only read such reports as Miss Ormerod has given us. Nothing can be truer than what she says so feelingly in her preface. "In a country such as this it appears an evil crying for removal that the *ignorance of the uneducated* should be allowed to cause, year by year, such a demonstrable loss to the nation." The attacks, mentioned in the report include, amongst others, the following orchard pests, which were very numerous in England during 1888. Apple Weevil, *Anthonomus pomorum*, Curtis. Green "Leaf" Weevil, *Phyllobius maculicornis*, Germ. Winter Moth, *Cheimatobia brumata*, L. Lackey Moth, *Clisiocampa neustria*, Curtis. Small Erminie Moth, *Yponomeuta padella*, Linn. Figure-of-8 Moth, *Diloba cæruleocephala*, Linn. Mottled Umber Moth, *Hybernia defoliaria*, Linn. A noticeable fact in the remedies proposed is that there is no mention of the arsenical poisons which are of such inestimable service in our large North American orchards, and which, with ordinary care, can be used with perfect safety. The attack of the Hessian fly on wheat, concerning which there was so much anxiety in England in 1887, seems to have decreased in a marked degree, and this



is doubtless owing to the attention paid by wheat growers to the advice given by Miss Ormerod.

Another satisfactory result of her labours is the decrease in the injury done by the ox warble fly; it is stated that "warble prevention has advanced much during the last season, and it is still more clearly shown than before that where the maggots are destroyed (as may easily be done) the attack may be for all practical purposes stamped out."

Injuries to beans, carrots, parsnips, and growing grain are also discussed. A new attack of particular interest, of which some particulars are given, is that of the wheat-flour moth. The importance of fighting it vigorously, however, seems to be appreciated, and we therefore trust that it will soon be got within control.

A special chapter upon the "sparrow nuisance" gives more facts to show the absurdity of the claims of those advocates who still try to uphold this pest on the plea that it is an insect-feeder.

J. F.

NOTES AND DESCRIPTIONS OF A FEW INJURIOUS FARM AND FRUIT  
INSECTS OF SOUTH AFRICA, BY MISS ELEANOR A. ORMEROD.  
F. R. Met. Soc., Etc.

This small 8vo. volume will, we believe, be of great value to the South African colonies. Considerable work has already been done there in economic entomology, but the publication of this work will undoubtedly give a special impulse to this branch of agriculture, which will be of lasting effect. In her modest preface the authoress speaks of it as "merely a fragment," but some of the monographs are very full, and the work is beautifully illustrated with clean figures.

J. F.

———:o:———

EDITORIAL NOTES.

A letter has been received from Prof. Macoun, who, with his assistant Mr. J. M. Macoun, is still in British Columbia, energetically working up the botany and zoology of the southern portion of that Province. The letter is dated at Kamloops, on 16th June, and states that they have been very successful in collecting specimens, having, at the



Fletcher, James. 1889. "Report of Observation of Injurious Insects and Common Farm Pests During the Year 1888, by Eleanor A. Ormerod [Review]." *The Ottawa naturalist* 3(2), 78–79.

**View This Item Online:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/item/89793>

**Permalink:** <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/partpdf/368486>

**Holding Institution**

Harvard University, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Ernst Mayr Library

**Sponsored by**

Harvard University, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Ernst Mayr Library

**Copyright & Reuse**

Copyright Status: Public domain. The BHL considers that this work is no longer under copyright protection.

This document was created from content at the **Biodiversity Heritage Library**, the world's largest open access digital library for biodiversity literature and archives. Visit BHL at <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org>.