

THE GARDENER'S RECIPT BOOK

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The Gardener's Receipt Book by William Jones

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WILLIAM JONES

**THE GARDENER'S
RECIPT BOOK**

THE
GARDENER'S RECEIPT BOOK :

A TREASURY OF INTERESTING FACTS

AND

Practical Information

USEFUL IN HORTICULTURE.

COMPREHENDING

THE MOST EFFECTUAL METHODS FOR THE DESTRUCTION OR
REMOVAL OF EVERYTHING INJURIOUS TO THE GARDEN;
WITH PREVENTIVES AND CURES FOR THE VARIOUS
DISEASES OF PLANTS, AND PERFECT DIRECTIONS
FOR THE PRESERVATION OF TREES, FRUITS,
AND FLOWERS.

BY WILLIAM JONES.

FIFTH EDITION,
MUCH ENLARGED.

LONDON:
GROOMBRIDGE AND SONS,
5, PATERNOSTER ROW.

MDCCLXXI.

~~100. c. 75.~~
191. c. 183.

"Particles of science are often widely scattered; he that collects these is very *laudably employed*, as he facilitates the progress of others, and may give to some adventurous mind leisure for new thoughts and original designs."—DR. JOHNSON.



PREFACE.

IN offering this little work to public attention, some explanation may be requisite. I have long seen the necessity of a work of this description, owing to the inconvenience and almost impossibility of obtaining such information without searching almost every author on gardening, saying nothing of the expense of procuring such works; therefore, I have selected, for the convenience of all persons connected with gardening, the cheapest, most effectual, and easily-applied recipes for the destruction of vermin and insects; the preservation of fruits, vegetables, and flowers; likewise preventives and cures for those diseases to which the vegetable race is subject. No such work existing, however, prior to this publication, I trust its value will be at once apparent, as an acquisition to every gardener and amateur, as well as to every individual who has a garden to admire.

I have strictly avoided inserting anything without having proved its efficacy myself, or having heard from some of my correspondents that it has given satisfaction to them.

With respect to destroying insects, some people may expect some recipe to entirely extirpate them at one dressing; but to me this appears almost impossible, in many cases, without having recourse to something injurious to vegetation, and thereby rendering the remedy worse than the disease: therefore I would wish to impress on the mind of the reader, the absolute necessity of persevering in the use of any receipt he may

select, feeling assured that such are efficient, if properly and perseveringly applied. I therefore trust no one will attribute their failing to the inefficacy of the receipt, if they have not perseveringly applied it.

The appearance of this work before the public may be the means of drawing from some gardener or amateur, something in advance to what is herein recorded; but my object has not been so much to teach men things of which they are ignorant, as to collect for them this eagerly-sought-for information into one volume, and thereby show them what they have got to improve upon.

My having had so many inquiries after such information, has induced me to lay before the public this little volume, in a form which, I trust, will prove acceptable, as *convenience* and *usefulness* have been my aim: how far I have succeeded is a question for the public to decide.

This new edition contains about fifty new receipts, mostly original; those selected from other works are duly acknowledged. The whole of the receipts retained from the former edition have been carefully revised, and there is not one instruction but may be relied on as having been proved effectual for the purpose for which it is recommended. Communications of new recipes, or improvements on any contained in this volume, if addressed—"Editor 'Gardener's Receipt Book,' 5, Paternoster Row, London, E.C.," will be most thankfully received, for incorporation in future editions.

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GARDENER'S RECEIPT BOOK.

American Blight.

TAKE half a peck of quicklime, half a pound of flowers of sulphur, and a quarter of a pound of lampblack. Mix with boiling water, enough to form a thick-paint. With this, in the winter, when the leaves are off, paint the branches, having first removed all loose bark. In doing this, be sure to remove the soil from the bottom of the stem to the main roots, and paint all the underground part. February is a good time for this. If one application is not sufficient, repeat. Use the paint warm. When this has become dry, the trees should be looked over, and all cracks and holes stopped with well worked clay, and after frost the clay-stoppings should be dressed again, to close any cracks that may occur. Spirits of tar, ammoniacal liquor from the gas-works, strong tobacco-water, soap-suds, or urine, two months old, may be used with decided benefit. Train oil, and other

fish oils have been used with success ; but in applying the latter, care should be taken not to touch the buds.

Ants—To destroy.

Lime-water poured freely into the nests and burrows will cause them to flit, if it does not kill them. The most effectual remedy is to mix arsenic into a solution of sugar and water, which they will devour greedily, but care must be taken that no other animal gets to it. Cover the saucer with a slate, and a stone on the top of it, having a couple of pegs between the saucer and slate, to let the ants in freely. Boiling water poured on the nests, is another remedy ; if the nest be in a pot amongst the roots of a plant, the best way is to immerse the pot and plant in water for five or six hours, in which time the ants will be drowned, and their eggs destroyed.

Another effectual plan is, to pour over the nest, at night, a strong decoction of elder leaves. To trap them, smear the inside of a garden pot with honey, invert it over the nest, and, when crowded with them, hold it over the steam of boiling water ; or turn a flower-pot, with its hole stopped up, over the nest. The ants build up into it, and the whole colony may be taken away in a shovel.

They may be kept from ascending standards and espalier trees, by tying a piece of wool round the stems and the supporters.

Ants on Fruit Trees.

Make a line of gas-tar round the stem of the tree, or if it be trained on a wall, make a horizontal line near the ground, on the wall, and one round the stem; this will prevent ants from ascending.

Blight on Fruit Trees, etc.

When winter dressings have failed, and the pests appear in spring to such an extent as to endanger the crop, procure a quantity of ammoniacal liquor from the gas-works, and to every pailful of the liquor add six of water, and boil as soon as possible in a large copper. Apply this in the evening, hot, with a syringe, drenching every part of the trees, and letting not a leaf escape. It should be used as hot as can be borne by placing the hand in it, and thrown with as much force as possible into all the crevices in the bark, on the under sides of the leaves, and splashed vigorously against the wall on which espaliers are trained.