

Mr. Hodson reported that the mite was first recorded by himself in Great Britain on January 25th in a stock of bulbs of the variety Diadem at Abingdon, Berks. This particular stock of bulbs had been in the country for a number of years, which makes it improbable that the mite is a recent import.

In the following months mite-infested stocks of bulbs were found at Penzance, Cornwall; Bromham, Wilts; Slough and Taplow, Bucks; and elsewhere—indicating that the distribution is fairly general. The infested varieties found by Mr. Hodson include the following:—Soleil d'Or, Argent, Sir Watkin, Dante, Golden Spur, Diadem, Emperor, King Alfred, and Victoria.

Mr. Hodson also states that a study of the bionomics of the mite has already been commenced, and that it is already apparent that it is responsible for the so-called "loss of vigour" in many field-stocks, and is further capable of causing complete or partial failure of the flower-crop, particularly in forced bulbs.

The mites in question were compared with other species of the same genus which occur in this country, and it was evident that the species was new to Britain.

In 1929 Mr. H. E. Ewing, of the United States Bureau of Entomology, described a new variety of *Tarsonemus* from the Pacific Coast, and it was stated that the mites were found infesting narcissus plants and bulbs, causing some injury to the same. Thus it seemed imperative to compare the English and American species of bulb-mite to determine whether they were one and the same species.

Material of the English species was sent to Dr. A. C. Oudemans, the celebrated acarologist of Arnhem, Holland, who very kindly made preparations and drawings of the mite, and later on determined the species as being *Tarsonemus approximatus* Banks var. *narcissi* Ewing.

Mr. Hodson also informs me that specimens were sent to Mr. H. E. Ewing, at Washington, who confirmed the opinion already made by Dr. Oudemans, namely, that the English and the American species were one and the same variety.

Tarsonemus approximatus Banks var. *narcissi* Ewing was described by Ewing* in a paper entitled "A new

* 'The Proceedings of the Entomological Society of Washington,' 1929, xxxi. no. 2, pp. 31-32.