

Sodium Fluoride Best To Kill Cockroaches

STILLWATER, Okla., Aug. 20 — (Special.)—Sodium fluoride is the best insecticide for getting rid of cockroaches, says G. A. Bieberdorf, assistant entomologist of Oklahoma A. and M. college. It should be blown or dusted into the cracks, crevices and other hiding places of the roach.

When the roach goes into his hiding place, his body collects some of the particles of sodium fluoride or he takes it into his breathing pores. If it gets on his body it irritates him and he naturally tries to clean it off with his jaws. Ordinarily he will swallow some of the fluoride which is always fatal.

The cockroach will eat practically any kind of food and is quite fond of chocolate or cocoa. If one part of plaster of Paris is mixed with three or four parts of chocolate or cocoa and placed in a convenient place the roaches will be materially reduced in numbers. When this method is used a flat dish should be placed nearby with bridges arranged so the roaches may easily get to it. They eat the cocoa and plaster of Paris and then drink water. As a result the plaster of Paris sets in their stomachs and kills them.

Borax or some arsenical may be used the same way as the plaster of Paris.