

fourths mature. By protecting the fruit thru this period with some fungicide the disease should give little trouble.

### CONTROL

The control of avocado blotch is similar to that of black spot as indicated by the results of the spraying experiment reported on page 14. The two diseases occur in close association and spraying for one controls the other. Two or three thoro applications of bordeaux mixture should prevent loss from blotch. The first application should be made after the fruit has set, about four or five weeks after the bloom has disappeared. A second application should follow three or four weeks after the first and possibly a third three weeks after the second. The 4-4-50 bordeaux formula should be used and care should be taken to thoroly cover the fruit.

The control of blotch is probably more important than the control of black spot, since it is much more injurious than the latter disease. If blotch were eliminated, it is probable that black spot would be less evident for there is little doubt but that blotch opens the way for a large percentage of the black spot infections.

### RUSTY BLIGHT

*Gloeosporium* sp.

This is a fungus disease that has become quite troublesome on the avocado in Hawaii,<sup>5</sup> and it may be present to some extent in Florida. It is found chiefly on the foliage and young branches of the trees; however, it also may attack the bloom and immature fruit. In habits it corresponds very closely to withertip on citrus. A species of *Gloeosporium* has been identified as the cause of the disease.

### APPEARANCE

Infected leaves turn rusty brown and the affected parts often are marked by concentric circles of lighter color, showing the progress of the fungus. The leaf may be attacked in any part of the blade, the disease spreading rapidly until a large part of the tissue is invaded. Leaves thus affected later fall, and in severe attacks the tree may be nearly defoliated. The fungus may pass from an infected leaf into the young twig and kill it. Affected branches become dark in color and may continue dying back, carrying the disease into the larger parts of the tree.

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<sup>5</sup>J. E. Higgins: Hawaii Expt. Sta., Bul. 25, pp. 23-26, 1911.