

mate has been reported as giving promising results (12, 16, 84). The use of acidulated corrosive sublimate is being reported occasionally and appears promising (43, 18, 17, 11). In 1924 the use of organic mercury compounds was begun in an experimental way in this country (48). These materials have been developed to such an extent that, at present, they need to be considered as possible specifics for the control of tuber-borne rhizoctonia and scab, although they have not yet proved generally satisfactory.

PRESENT-DAY RECOMMENDATIONS

The investigational work on seed treatment of potatoes was given a new impetus throughout the country during the last few years, possibly because of the appearance of the new proprietary organic mercury compounds. It is not within the scope of this paper to give a complete summary of all seed treatment literature, but a review of the very recent publications and recommendations demonstrates that, even though the experimental results are conflicting at times, corrosive sublimate is still considered the most efficient method in most of the states for the control of rhizoctonosis (Table I). Schultz and his associates (79, 78), working in northern Maine, found that seed treatment with either corrosive sublimate, formaldehyde, or organic mercury compounds improved the stand, reduced seed-piece decay, increased the vigor of the plants, inhibited the formation of stem lesions and tuber-borne sclerotia, and increased the yield. Furthermore, they ascertained that rhizoctonosis was better controlled, and in general, larger increases in yield resulted where the tubers were treated with corrosive sublimate according to the old standard formula. Clayton (13), on Long Island, found that the organic mercury compounds were less effective in controlling rhizoctonosis than corrosive sublimate, and that both treatments were unprofitable to the growers in that section. White (91), in Kansas, found hot formaldehyde and corrosive sublimate equally efficient, while Moore, Wheeler, and Kotila (41, 57, 58, 59), in Michigan, demonstrated "the old methods (corrosive sublimate) satisfactory". Similar conclusions could be cited from Connecticut, Washington, Ohio, Wyoming and many other states (Table I). Orton and Miles (60, 61), in summarizing the results of various investigators in different parts of the United States, concluded that corrosive sublimate was the most efficient treatment in controlling rhizoctonosis. As indicated in Table I, the various treatments are recom-