

form. The twiggy growth need not be wired as it is firstly, very difficult to do this and secondly, the form can be corrected through constant pruning.

The wire should never be allowed to cut into the tree as this leaves scars, which will spoil the aesthetic appearance of the tree.

XV. PESTS AND PLAGUES

The White Stinkwood is relatively pest free. The only problems are red spider, white fly, Australian mealy buds and, possibly, scale insects.

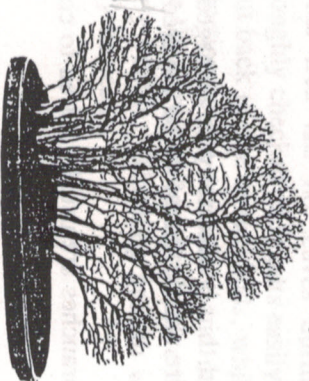
A systemic poison like Kelthane or Malathion is ideal for red spider and white fly. If a tree suffers from red spider it means that the leaves do not get enough moisture. When you water your trees, make sure that the leaves are watered underneath as well. White mealy bugs and scale insect can be treated with an oil emulsion such as Oleum.

I personally believe in biological control of pests rather than chemical treatment. Red spider, for example, is controlled by allowing smaller spiders in the bonsai garden.

Aphids are controlled by ladybirds. A praying-mantis controls worms and other insects, but beware that they do eat the harmless insects as well!

CONCLUSION

I trust that you now have a better understanding of and insight into this wonderful bonsai material and that it will transport you off to the dreamy forgetfulness of Cellises.



LIST OF REFERENCES

- "Trees of South Africa" by Keith Coates Palgrave.
- "Common Names of South African Plants" by C.A. Smith.
- "Ses en Sestig Transvaalse Bome" by B de Winter, Mayda de Winter and P.J.B. Kiltick.
- "Aspects of Bonsai Design, Broom Style" by William N. Valavanis - article from International Bonsai Bulletin.
- "From the start: Zelkova: Japanese Grey Bark Elm" by Lynn Perry Alstadt - article from International Bonsai Bulletin.