

FALL PLANTING AND SELECTION OF PROPER COMBINATIONS AND VARIETIES

Some Good Advice to Both Old and New Fruit Growers By the Editor of the Oregon Grower, the Organ of the Oregon Growers Cooperative Association; Some Important Considerations.

(The following, from the October number of the Oregon Grower, the very interesting and valuable magazine published by the Oregon Growers' Cooperative Association, should be carefully read and preserved by the old and new fruit growers of this section. Prof. C. I. Lewis is the editor of this magazine, and no doubt the writer of the article.)

The time of year is coming when a large number of growers are planning to increase their acreage. Despite a slump in some lines of fruit, nevertheless there will probably be a considerable planting in those same lines, and quite a strong planting in lines that have given good results this past year. Slumps, if they come along, are largely temporary. California has worked up a system of marketing whereby they have seemingly been able to systematically increase their acreage.

For example, two years ago in a single year, California planted more fruit than the entire state of Oregon had accumulated in its history up to that date. Such a plan can only be brought about by careful organization of the marketing. If we do nothing but plant and never develop markets, we must expect severe slumps and much grief from time to time.

Acreage May be Enlarged
If Oregon fruit growers will develop their markets through cooperative endeavor in the same way as the Californians have developed theirs, there is no reason why we should not have a considerable increase in acreage each year, because many of the old orchards are entering decline. Many of them have passed their days of usefulness, and will soon have to be taken out.

Fall planting has its advantages and its disadvantages. The advantage of the fall planting is that the trees become established early and are in a position to grow lacks great extremes. On that account we have a very diverse list of fruits to select from.

What to Plant
The question comes up as to what should we plant. The best advice we feel we can give is this, not to put all your eggs in one basket. Nature has been very kind to us here in Oregon. We have a great fruit and agricultural belt, with many types of soil, and many variations in climate. On the whole our climate lacks great extremes. On that account we have a very diverse list of fruits to select from.

If we should spread a map of the world before us, we could quickly mark out certain highly developed agricultural belts. The great Mediterranean including Spain, Italy and Greece, so noted for its production of fruits and nuts, is producing these not as a result of mere accident, but because the warm winds from Africa are

tempered by the Mediterranean and the cold winds of the north are shut out by high mountains. An equitable climate is the result.

Mesopotamia when irrigated and developed, will blossom like the rose and will produce practically all fruits, both temperate and tropical. The West Indies and portions of Central America, because of warm temperatures and high rainfall, are especially adapted for banana culture and always will be. Florida, a low-lying peninsula, influenced by the warm currents of the Atlantic on the one hand and the Gulf of Mexico on the other, will always be famous for the production of certain types of citrus fruits. Our Great Lakes district, even portions of New York and Michigan, and southern Ontario comprise one of the greatest fruit belts in the world.

Graft Fruits Grow Here
So the Pacific northwest, but more especially our own territory here in western and southern Oregon, also has certain conditions of climate and soil that make it possible to produce a remarkably rich list of fruits. The Dalles section along the Columbia river, and the Umpqua, Willamette and Rogue River valleys, protected as they are against cold winds by the high mountains, and receiving the influence of the warm winds from the Pacific, coupled with a remarkable diversity in soil, enables us to choose almost at will what we care to grow.

If therefore we can grow to an unequalled degree of excellence a wide variety of fruits, why concentrate our interests on one? However, diversification in itself may be delusion and a snare. To merely diversify for diversification's sake, is not worth while. Let me illustrate:

We have two neighbors, Smith and Brown. Smith chooses Anjou and Comice pears, Northern Spy, Newtown and King apples; Royal Anne and Bing cherries, English walnuts, some red raspberries and logans; at the end of the seventh year, and even up to the tenth or twelfth year, Smith has received very little income except from his raspberries and loganberries, and a few walnuts. His Anjou and Comice pears have not been properly pollinated and are bearing poorly. The Spys and Kings are just beginning to bloom at 12 years of age, and his Newtowns are not producing heavily until at least 10 years of age. The Royal Annes and Bings did not pollinate each other, and have done nothing.

Early Returns Are Possible
Across the road is Brown. He planted Bartlett, Clairgeau and Bosc pears; Ortley, Grimes and Jonathan apples; filberts, strawberries and gooseberries; Royal Anne, Waterhouse and Montmorency cherries. Brown has been making money every year, beginning with the fifth year. At that time his Bartletts, Clairgeau and Bosc pears all gave him their first light crop. He also gathered a very nice crop from his Ortley, Grimes and Jonathan apples; his filberts began with the fifth year; his Royal Annes were pollinated by his Waterhouse, and also bearing lightly by the fifth year, and are giving very heavy crops by the seventh, and he has been picking commercial crops of his Montmorencys from the fifth year on. He is very enthusiastic over fruit growing.

Now again I must caution our readers that they must not draw hasty conclusions or think that none of the fruit which Smith is growing should never have been grown, because we could not afford to lose certain varieties, but Smith was unfortunate in producing late varieties or varieties that were not properly pollinated. Some of these rather light bearing varieties might be included in certain combinations to advantage.

What are some of the fruits which we can consider? If you are an apple man and are going to replant where trees are dying, or wish to increase your acreage somewhat, the following suggestions may be of some interest: At The Dalles, Winter Banana, Rome, Ortley and Delicious. In the Willamette valley, Ortley, Jonathan Gravenstein, Rome, Winter Banana, Golden Delicious, and in a few sections the maintenance of the Spitzbergen and Newtowns.

Varieties to Grow
In the Umpqua valley, about the same as the Willamette, except that the Spitzbergen and the richer soils look like a money maker. In the Rogue River valley, the standard are Spitzbergen and Newtown. In the Grants Pass district, there seems to be an opportunity for the early varieties, such as Gravenstein, Winter banana, Cornell Fancy and similar varieties.

Of pears, the Rogue River valley will grow all the standard varieties, but is leaning more and more to the Bosc and will probably maintain the Bartlett and the Anjou. In the Umpqua and Willamette valleys, and at The Dalles, it is going to be hard to get a combination consisting of Bartlett, Clairgeau and Bosc.

For cherries, the three standard varieties are Royal Anne, Lamberts and Bings, with Waterhouse as a splendid pollinizer, where one desires a canning cherry. The Black Republican is desirable as a shipping cherry, and one or two growers at The Dalles are finding the Burbank Abundance to be of value.

In pears, the Italian will probably for some time to come be the leader as a shipping green pear, out of The Dalles and as the main drying pear of the Umpqua and Willamette valleys. The Petite in the Umpqua and certain strains in the Willamette are extremely desirable. For the imperial when planted with other varieties seems to be doing fairly well. The Leonard Coates 1418, is worthy of consideration, and likewise the New Oregon. A few growers are finding that the sugar pear, especially when top worked, has great value.

Of the walnuts we have the Franquette, the Mayette, and the Wiltz-Mayette, and we have a few seedlings that may be worthy of propagating and which later will be named and prove to be extremely desirable. For the filbert, the Barcelona seems to be the backbone of our industry with the Du Chilly as a pollinizer, and in turn as a pollinizer for the Du Chilly, the Clackamas, Chaperone, Daviana, or Turkish.

We must not overlook the berries.

APPLE NEWS FROM YAKIMA DISTRICT

There Has Been a Shortage of Cars, But They Are Now Rolling Fast

Following items are clipped from the weekly bulletin sent out by the Yakima Fruit Growers association, handling the "Big Y Brand" of apples. The date is October 7:

"Congestion of warehouses increased rapidly toward the end of the week, both N. P. and O.W.R. & N. officials here were making vigorous calls on higher executives for relief.

"Total shipments from the Yakima Valley during the week, October 1 to 7, were 1,074 carloads, estimating 170 cars for Friday, October 7. This figure for Friday morning appeared too large, with a total of only 137 cars spotted at all valley points for the day. Accepting the total of 1,074 cars for the week brings the season's total for the valley to 6,074 cars.

"J. McPherson Ferguson shipped seven carloads of Yakima valley apples during the past week billed direct to Glasgow, Scotland, by way of Montreal. The British demand for Northwest apples is reported increasing because of prolonged drought in England. Some shipments are being made by way of Seattle for foreign shipment by water via S. S. "Northumberland" which sails next week."

ries. The Loganberry, the evergreen, Cutbert, raspberry, the Plum Farmer, or Munger, Black cap, the Oregon Champion gooseberry. Of the strawberries, the Wilson is maintaining its own, and the Etterburg is increasing in favor, a number of growers this past year, receiving very satisfactory results. The Trebia is going to prove to be a strawberry to plant on a small scale rather than on a more extensive scale; where a grower has a small patch and can gather quickly it is quite satisfactory, but in large patches, the berry cannot stand delays in harvesting.

Surely from the list mentioned, almost any fruit grower can work out his plan of diversification which meets his conditions.

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ORCHARDS IN THE SALEM DISTRICT

These Are the Kind That Are Not At All Affected by Any Hard Times

The following are observations of a writer in the Oregon Grower for October:

"One of the finest blocks of prunes in the valley is owned by Nils Herigstad and three sons, Carl, Christopher and William. It is located half way between Silverton and Scotts Mills. There are 27 acres planted to prune trees most of which are six and seven years old.

"This year more than 30 tons of dried prunes were produced in this orchard. Cover cropping with vetch, cultivating thoroughly with a tractor, and using intelligent care have brought very good results in this orchard. The soil is deep and of the red hill type. A new six tunnel drier was used in handling the tonnage this year.

"Another noteworthy orchard in the Silverton district is the one belonging to Sam Ames. Here are some figures we like to print: From his 12-acre orchard of six year old trees a total of 30 tons, or 15 tons of dried prunes will be delivered this year. The prunes are very large. This is a walnut and prune grove comprising 20 acres in all. Hard times can hardly affect such records as this."

THE INTERESTING FILBERT HISTORY

The Name is a Corruption of the Old English For Full Beard

The filbert industry is attracting a great deal of interest in the Salem district at the present time. In fact, it is on a boom. It is said that, within a very short time, there will be no available nursery stock on hand for the new plantings for the coming year. The farmers of this section have seen the light; realized that this is one of the most reliable of all the crops; that it is not affected by weather conditions prevailing here, either in the growing and fruiting of the trees or the harvesting of the crop; and that it is likely to prove a very profitable crop.

The word "filbert" is a corruption of the old English "full beard" referring to the long husk which covers the nut. In the past it designated only nuts of this type such as the common hazel

A BOOST FOR THE EVERGREEN GAME

Leslie's Magazine Editor Thinks They Are All in Puyallup Valley

"What Moscow is to Bolshevism, and Hollywood to the movies, and Petaluma to eggs, so is the Puyallup valley to berries. Especially raspberries, loganberries and blackberries. You have never seen blackberries grow until you have seen Puyallup. They take seven tons—14,000 pounds—of berries from an acre!

"There are doubtless many explanations of this apparent magic. The soil and climate have been there for a long time, but of what value without a market? And the things that made it possible for canneries to be built and express refrigerator cars to be shipped all the way to New York and expensive advertising campaigns undertaken—all these are matters of business imagination, hard work, and driving along one line until the bodyless idea was a going concern.

"It is just as well to keep this in mind in viewing any such success, whether in berries or whatsoever. Soil is a great thing, and so is climate, and they have lots

of both in the west, but the soil, as Emerson remarked of the sunset, needs a man."

Under the hearing, "Travelogue on Blackberries," Leslie's Magazine prints the above on its editorial page in its current number.

It is all right; and it shows that the east is waking up to the importance of the great American berry, the evergreen blackberry.

But the writer might have found cases in the Salem district this year of over 16,000 pounds of evergreen blackberries to the acre, and other cases of as high as 22,000 pounds of these berries to the acre. The latter is not usual, of course.

And if the "Travelogue" had been a little more comprehensive, it would have included the Salem district, where nearly all the evergreen blackberries in the world are grown, in Marion, Polk, Yamhill, Linn and Clackamas counties—Marion county alone having some 4000 acres.

As was told in the Statesman of last week, the evergreen blackberry is a close second to the loganberry; but it is also a splendid team-mate for the loganberry, as it begins to ripen only over so the same crew of pickers may merely move over into the evergreen blackberry plantation, where the two are on the same farm, or even in the same neighborhood.

The best authorities on fruit are advising all loganberry growers who have the room to raise some evergreen blackberries—

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BIG FRUIT CROP LIKELY NEXT YEAR

The Most Vigorous Fruit Spurs on the New Wood Are Now in Evidence

On the whole growers have every right to expect a large crop in 1922, because the most vigorous fruit spurs on the new wood are quite generally resting this season. While many successful prune men assert from experience that an annual crop should be the rule, and not the exception, due to intensive methods of pruning, spraying, cultivation and fertilization, it is no doubt true that a rest is conducive to extended efforts.—The Oregon Grower for October.

and no doubt the advice will be very generally taken. The great American pie berry is certainly on its way—and Salem is its center.

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