

THE VINEYARD.

The Scuppernong Grape.

As I am now having a little leisure time, I will take the opportunity to comply with the promise to furnish you with a short article on my operations with the Scuppernong grape this season.

At the outset, I will say I am amazed at the productiveness of this class of grapes; the quantity that can be raised on an acre of ground is no longer problematical with me. I have one vine covering an arbor twenty yards long and fourteen yards wide, and thirteen years old, which has given me thirty bushels of clean grapes, by actual measurement, being at the rate of 525 bushels per acre; and as a bushel of grapes weighs fifty-two pounds, and yields three and a half gallons juice per bushel, I am getting at the rate of thirteen tons and 1,800 gallons of wine per acre.

I have another vine larger and older than the above mentioned, being twenty-five years old. This is not so productive, in consequence of growing in ground too rich, being in my back yard, where, from its receiving the waste water incident to such a situation, its growth is too vigorous.

I have had clusters of grapes this season carrying twenty-four large berries, and numbers of berries measuring one and a quarter (1 1/4) inches in diameter each. I found one berry which measured 1 1/2 inches in diameter and 4 1/2 inches in circumference, which is the largest I have ever seen or heard of. I see in the papers some statements in regard to the large yield of grapes the present season in some of the vineyards in California, to-wit—four to five tons per acre. I have no doubt whatever that, with our Scuppernong, I can raise treble the number of pounds per acre than can be either in California or the Valley of Eschschol, with any grape in the world.

I have about one hundred vines of various ages under cultivation.—J. VAN BUREN, Clarksville, Ga.

We clip the above from the columns of the "Rural Southern and Plantation" more to show what can be done with this popular grape on its "native heat," than any design of recommending it to the culture of Pennsylvanians. If we are not very much mistaken, our venerable friend, Jacob B. Garber, of Columbia, Pa., has given the "Scuppernong" a thorough trial, and finds it not at all adapted to the latitude of Lancaster county.

This grape is also said to be free from the attacks of Phylloxera and other enemies that this fruit is heir to, and that cions grafted on its roots will escape their infestations. The yield above described is so abundant, and the fruit so remarkably fine, that other attempts to acclimate it might result more favorable, and therefore be worthy of extended trial. Of course practical growers who cultivate grapes for profit will best know what to do in the premises. This is an experimental or transition period in the horticultural history of our country, and therefore in securing any step forward we must run the risk of temporary backward movement occasionally.—Lancaster Farmer.

Grafting and the Phylloxera.

At the meeting of the Missouri Horticultural Society, Prof. Riley, in an address upon the new grape pest, Phylloxera, called attention to the fact that certain varieties were exempt from the attacks of the insect. He recommended grafting as a remedy.

Speaking of this means as a preventive, he stated the absolute necessity of preventing the vine from taking root from the graft, as it would undoubtedly do without constant care, if the operation was performed, as is most common, underground. To obviate this, he recommended two well known methods of grafting above ground, but which are seldom practiced in the West. He said:

The first is by temporarily making a false surface and grafting in the ordinary manner, i. e., instead of digging away the earth and inserting the cion two or three inches below ground, it should be inserted two or three inches above ground, and the earth thrown up around it, to be removed only after the graft is thoroughly and permanently joined. There will then be no danger of the graft forming its own roots; and it is certainly as easy to throw the earth around the vine as to dig it away, while the mechanical work can be much more conveniently and agreeably performed above than beneath the surface. The second method is by inarching. This system of grafting does not seem to have been much practiced in this country, yet while it requires great care, and success may not as often crown the effort as in the former methods, I hope more attention will in the future be given to it.

The operation is comparatively simple. A slice two or three inches long is cut from one side of the vine to be grafted, and a similar slice from the vine which is to serve as stock, as near the base or butt as possible. The two cut portions are then brought face to face, so as to fit as neatly as possible, and are then bound together with cord, basswood bark, or other grafting bandage. In the course of a fortnight partial union takes place, when the bandage should be somewhat loosened, to admit the expansion. In six or eight weeks, if the operation is successful, the stock and cion are firmly united, when the bandage may be removed. The graft immediately below the union, and the stock immediately above it, should then be partially severed, and in a week or two more should be entirely cut loose.

Prof. Riley closed by giving varieties upon which to graft, viz: Concord, Clinton, Herbeumont, Cunningham, Norton's Virginia, Kent, Cynthiana, and also varieties to graft on to any or all of the above, as of first importance: Catawba, Iona, Delaware, Wilder; Geste, any European or hybrid vine with such; of secondary importance—Ves, Hartford, Prolific, Max-stawney.—Western Rural.

To Weave Hair.

A writer in The Household gives some very plain directions how to weave hair: Take a smooth board one and a half feet long and six or eight inches wide. Near one end drive three shingle nails in a row, the nails being half an inch apart and the row running parallel with the end of the board. At the other end, opposite the middle nail, drive one nail; wax three pieces of linen thread, tie them together at one end, and about a quarter of an inch from this knot the another. Now slip it over the nail that stands alone, then tie one to each of the three nails, drawing the thread considerably tight.

Take the board on your lap, with the three nails toward the right hand. Next take a bunch of hair, both the ends evened, the size of a knitting needle, wet that end and put it under the thread nearest you, over the middle thread and under the last, then bring it back on the left side, reversing the order. Now push it close up against the knot. Proceed in this way until the strip is of the required length. After it is dry it can be pushed together more closely. Twist is superior to linen for durability.

THE SWINE YARD.

Feeding Swine in Summer.

A correspondent of the Germantown Telegraph writes: "During the hot summer months I would feed very little solid feed, such as corn in the ear or uncracked. I would keep hogs upon green feed constantly, either grass, oats or rye, and feed them at regular intervals, once or twice a day, upon mashed feed, either shorts, chopped oats or rye, buckwheat, etc., fed in troughs. When fed in this way, and at the same time allowed access to water and shade, hogs will bear crowding through the hot months, a very good time, if not the best, to take on flesh. This puts them in the best of condition for corn feeding, which should commence about the 1st of September, when the new crop is still soft and tender."

This writer is on the eve of finding out that the hog requires bulky food as well as the cow or horse. Because pork is usually made by feeding grain, many farmers have almost ceased to regard the hog as a grass eating animal. When farmers shall study the nature of the pig and feed it accordingly, there will be little trouble with cholera, scurvy or other diseases. Both are no doubt occasioned by errors in feeding and unclean surroundings. One point mentioned in the above paragraph needs correction, and that is, that it is dangerous to feed high in summer. This idea has grown out of the fact that diseases are more prevalent in warm weather; but the cause of greater prevalence of disease, is that concentrated food creates fever in the stomach, and the hot weather increases the difficulty. Cold water carries off much of the unnatural heat, and thus modifies the effect of grain diet alone.

Now the pig should be fed in such a way that the stomach will be healthy at all times, and then the summer heat will aid the growth and laying on of fat. With grass or other green food, given with meal, the pig may be fattened much cheaper in summer than fall or winter; it requiring little food to keep up animal heat. The summer is the economical time to make pork; give plenty of clover, green rye, oats, turnips, beets, carrots or other green food relished by the pig, and with this give corn meal, ground oats, peas or any other grain, and your pigs will make healthy pork, and the pork cost fifty per cent. less than that made in winter.—Live Stock Journal.

SALT FOR HOGS.—The unrestrained appetite of swine will often lead them to consume things that are highly injurious to them. Cases of poisoning by partaking of excessive quantities of salt often occur among hogs at this season, when beef and pork barrels are emptied of the old brine and refuse salt. A case in which several hogs were lost in England was recently noted. Hogs require a certain amount of salt, as do other animals, but it should be given to them with caution, and either evenly mixed or scattered very thinly about their troughs, so that one more greedy than another cannot take more than its proper share.—Exchange.

Pigs.—The farmer should not forget that warm weather is the profitable time to fatten his pigs. He should not wait till it takes one-half of the food that the pig can eat to keep him warm. Now is the time to feed soft corn. The corn on an acre will make 25 per cent. more pork while soft than when it gets hard and flinty. In the soft state it does not need any cooking; it is then in the cooking process of nature. Feed your pigs now, judiciously, all they will eat, and push them on the fattening road as fast as possible.—Exchange.

POULTRY YARD.

Fattening Chickens.

It is hopeless to attempt to fatten chickens while they are at liberty. They must be put up in a proper coop and this, like most other appliances, need not be expensive. To fatten twelve fowls a coop may be three feet long, eighteen inches high and eighteen inches deep, made entirely of bars. No part solid—neither top, sides nor bottom. Discretion must be used, according to the size of the chickens put up. They do not want any room; indeed, the closer they are the better, provided they can all stand up at the same time. Care must be taken to put up such as have been accustomed to be together, or they will fight. If one is quarrelsome it is better to remove it at once, as, like other bad examples, it soon finds imitators. Diseased chickens should never be put up.

The food should be ground oats, and may either be put up in a trough or on a flat board running along the front of the coop. It may be mixed with water and milk—the latter is the better. It should be well soaked, forming a pulp as loose as can be, provided it does not run off the board. They must be well fed three or four times a day, the first time as soon after daylight as may be possible or convenient, and then at intervals of four hours. Each meal should be as much as they can eat up clean, and no more. When they have done feeding, the board should be wiped and some gravel spread. It causes them to feed and thrive.

After a fortnight of this treatment you will have good, fat fowls. If, however there are but five or six to be fattened, they must not have as much room as though there were a dozen. Nothing is easier than to allow them the proper space, as it is only necessary to have two or three pieces of wood to pass between the bars and form a partition. This may also serve when fowls are up at different degrees of fatness. This requires attention, or fowls will not keep fat and healthy. As soon as the fowl is sufficiently fattened, it must be killed; otherwise it will not get fat, but will lose flesh. If fowls are intended for the market, of course they are or may be fattened at once; but if for home consumption, it is better to put them up at such intervals as will suit the time when they will be required for the table.

When the time arrives for killing, whether they are meant for market or otherwise, they should be fasted without food or water for twelve or fifteen hours. This enables them to keep for some time after being killed, even in hot weather.—Journal of Chemistry.

DRESSED MUTTON.—To have it as it should be, the dish must be lined with mashed potatoes, the mutton nicely minced and properly seasoned, placed in the dish, a little stock added, and then covered over with mashed potatoes roughed with a fork, and placed before the fire till the little dish assumes the appearance of a nicely-browned baked hedgehog. The hotter served, the better relished, provided it has only been allowed to simmer and not to boil.

DORSETTERS.—Boil one quart of new milk and melt in it half a pound of butter. Beat three eggs with two pounds sugar, and add the boiling milk, stirring all the time. When nearly solid stir in a teaspoon of yeast, a teaspoon of salt, and flour to make stiff batter. When quite light knead in flour to make a soft dough. Let it rise again till very light, roll, cut in strips, and fry in hot lard.

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