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**HOME COURSE  
IN FRUITS  
AND BERRIES**

**RASPBERRIES, CURRANTS  
AND GOOSEBERRIES.**

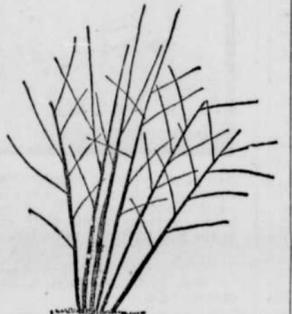
By LE ROY CADY and K. A. KIRKPATRICK of the Minnesota Agricultural College.

**T**HE raspberry will succeed on any good corn soil. It likes a great deal of moisture. A north slope is accounted best. The presence of an abundance of humus in the ground chosen is desirable. The best fertilizer to use is stable manure comparatively free from straw or fowl weed seeds. Apply a fairly heavy dressing to clover or timothy stubble in the fall and plow under. If the ground is already quite rich in nitrogen it may be desirable to grow a crop of roots or potatoes previous to setting the plants or even to dispense with the manuring altogether.

It is desirable to plow in the fall and allow full weathering. If plowing must be done in the spring the top portion of the soil should first be thoroughly stirred with a disk or other harrow. In the spring, if the plowing has been done in the fall, as soon as the top of the soil dries sufficiently it should be dragged. Follow with disk or spading harrow, working the surface up thoroughly. Some growers prefer to apply well rotted stable manure just previous to this treatment.

**Time to Plant.**  
The upright or suckering varieties may be set with good results in the fall. The black caps, or the tip growing sorts, must be planted in the spring. Wait until good, large sprouts have started from the tip plant.

Practicable raspberry propagation is done only by means of sucker plants



TYPICAL RASPBERRIES AFTER PRUNING.

and tip plants. To obtain sucker plants the planter should dig up the little sucker sprouts which stand in the outer part of the hills or rows. Care should be taken to get a good portion of the running underground root. But the best possible results will usually be secured by digging up several large, thrifty plants in the fall. Cut the roots in three inch pieces and stratify them over winter. In the spring sow these in shallow drills in well prepared garden soil. This method requires a year.

For the tip plants the tips of the growing canes may be allowed to droop and touch the soil in the latter part of July. If the soil is loose and extremely dry they should have earth placed over their tips with a spade or hoe. In late fall they will have rooted nicely. When laying down the canes for the winter a foot or more of the cane should be cut free and allowed to stick up, to mark their position.

**Planting.**  
Two methods of planting are in vogue—the hill and the continuous row. We believe the check hill system is better.

**Cultivation.**  
Cultivation should be begun as soon as the plants are set. It should be shallow, but kept up all summer long. The soil should never be allowed to bake or crust. The best tool is the horse five shovel or fourteen tooth cultivator.

The patch should never be seeded down, nor should grass be allowed to creep in. If one wishes to ripen the canes in late summer millet, oats or buckwheat may be sowed thickly to take up the moisture in the soil. If it is desired to enrich the ground for the coming year, soy beans or Canadian peas may be used.

Mulching is sometimes used as a substitute for cultivation, but its success is doubtful.

**Pruning and Thinning.**  
Not more than two shoots should be allowed to grow from each plant the first year. The second and succeeding years each hill of the suckering kind will produce a great many shoots. Only four or five of the strongest should be allowed to develop.

The drooping sorts throw out their shoots from the root near the crown. The treatment for the first year is similar to that for the suckering kinds. The second and succeeding years five or six canes may be allowed to develop. The canes which have borne fruit should always be removed soon after the crop is harvested.

If one wishes to grow the berries without laying them down in winter the young shoots should have the tops pinched out of them when they are about fifteen to twenty inches high.

Laying them down in winter is always cheap insurance.

Varieties should be limited. Pests and diseases are usually not present or they are readily controlled.

**Currants.**

The currant must have a moist, cool soil. The best results are got on a strong clay loam or even on a stiff clay if it is in a good state of cultivation. A cool northern exposure is best, and comparatively low, moist ground, with some shade, will often be most desirable. Planting among orchard trees is practicable.

A dozen plants will furnish sufficient fruit for the ordinary family. They should not be set out along fence rows and allowed to grow up in weeds and grass. Large quantities of barnyard manure should be worked into the site before and after setting the plants.

**Plants.**

Currants can be grown from seed, but the method is not used except by the plant breeder. Plants are usually procured from nurserymen.

The plants used are grown from cuttings of the ripened wood or from layerings. The cuttings are made from the current season's wood in August or September after the leaves have fallen. These are made seven or eight inches long and are planted in well prepared garden soil, with only an inch above ground, four inches apart, in rows three feet apart. By winter root growth will have started, and in the spring they will start off and grow strongly. They should be kept well cultivated in the growing season to conserve the moisture. They are sometimes planted when one year old, but the best results will be obtained by allowing them to grow for two seasons before setting.

The branches may be rooted by bending them down and covering with soil, leaving the tips exposed. After one season they should be cut loose, lifted and grown in nursery rows for one season before being planted out. They are also layered successfully by cutting off the clump, encouraging as many young shoots as possible and then mounding soil in and about them to a height of eight or ten inches.

**Planting.**

In large plantations the best plan is the check system. Use a single plant to establish a hill and plant 6 by 6 feet for best results. Where continuous rows are used the plants should stand 3 1/2 or 4 by 6 feet.

**Cultivation and Mulching.**

The currant must not be cultivated deeply, for it is a shallow rooted plant. The necessary moisture must be maintained by continuous surface cultivation or by mulching.

Asbes, sawdust, straw and manure are used for mulching. Hardwood sawdust, if not worked into the soil, is probably the best. Apply to a depth of several inches. Manure is good and tends to keep a supply of plant food always at hand. The best method of mulching is to confine the application to the hills and within the row, where the continuous row is used. The space between the rows is cultivated.

**Pruning and Thinning.**

The plants probably produce the best fruit and the larger portion of it on the two and three year old wood.

In practical field culture four to eight main stems are allowed to develop, and a system of renewing by cutting out the wood over three years old is followed. The greater part of the fruit is borne near the base of the shoots. For this reason it is advantageous to nip back the growing shoots in the summer season when they have reached about eighteen inches.

**Harvesting and Marketing.**

The currants, if to be sold, should never be stripped when one is picking. The stems of the bunches should be cleanly severed from the branches. The fruit is said to make better jelly when picked just as the currants are ripening and while the fruits on the tips of the bunches are green.

**Winter Protection.**

Currants will usually be sufficiently protected in the northwest if the branches are simply gathered up and tied in a bundle.

**Pests and Diseases.**

The greatest pests of the currant are the currant worm, currant borer, leaf spot and mildew. Directions for controlling them may be obtained from any agricultural experiment station.

**Gooseberries.**

The gooseberry is closely related to the currant. It is largely used green for sauce, for pies and for canning. For jam and preserves it is usually preferred ripe.

The cultivated sorts are derived from European sources, the native wild species and hybrids of these species. Those of European and hybrid species are larger and heavier bearers, but are more susceptible to mildew. However, this once insuperable foe is now readily controlled by proper methods of planting, cultivating and spraying.

The gooseberry is generally quite hardy in the northwest and will succeed alongside the currant. The propagation and planting are the same as for that fruit. In fact, identical treatment may be given it, with the following variations:

The production will be larger and the size and appearance of the fruits will be better if one-third to one-half of the new growth is cut off each year. The berries must be picked with gloved hands, a stick being used in the left hand by some pickers to spread or hold the bushes apart. They are marketed in the ordinary quart boxes, although in some localities the large English sorts are packed in ten pound trays. When so packed they are faced in the receptacle, just as are the large western sweet cherries when opened up on the city market.

**MARVELS OF PHOTOGRAPHY.**

How Creatures Invisible to the Eye Are Shown as Monsters.

Photographing the invisible sounds like a misnomer, but correct to say invisible by the unaided eye. This complex and valuable science is revealing wonders in the excessively minute, and myriad objects, animate and inanimate, are brought to view whose existence has all along been unknown.

Two methods of illuminating the objects are in use—strong light is passed through very thin layers of the substance or reflected from the outside surface of thick masses and also from the external portions of exceedingly small opaque bodies.

These solid particles can be placed on glass slides or floated in transparent liquids, as a drop of water between two very thin glasses. Pinch the glasses close together; there is no danger of killing the smaller kinds of animals, such as bacteria and microbes. They have plenty of room in a film of water so thin as to be beyond imagination.

The magnifying lenses for expansion of images of these minute objects require the most consummate skill in manufacture, the microcamera likewise, and the two combined are triumphs of human genius. The finished products, the perfected pictures, are highly educational. Many different kinds of greatly improved glass are now made in Jena, Germany, and these have almost revolutionized microscopy. And the wonders accomplished by using the most sensitive plates ever made, and these with many different kinds of waves of light, are almost beyond comprehension.

The "Arabian Nights" people are eclipsed. Thus put a drop of stagnant water on glass, lay a thin plate upon it, press down, and the layer of water will be thin indeed. Put it under the microscope, turn bright light through the layer, pass this light into the very small camera and let it fall on a prepared moving film; then the amazing effect of animals in motion is to be fixed on a film that is itself in motion. This film, a long strip, is then placed on rollers and unwound, so that it will pass powerful projecting lenses in a moving picture outfit.

This is, indeed, photographing the unknown. Since man appeared on earth no such aid to refined research into nature's labyrinths has been discovered. Then a large audience can see all that there is in a minute drop of water on a screen from ten to sixteen feet in diameter. Totally invisible creatures become monsters and move with great rapidity before the eyes of the people. Thousands of new species of minute living organisms are rescued from realms of the unknown.—Edgar Lucien Larkin in New York American.

**Bamboos as Water Pitchers.**

In the Hawaiian Islands the natives carry their supply of water about with them in long bamboo tubes, the joints of which have been knocked out. Girls may be seen making their way to nearby springs with the family "water jug." They patiently fill the long hollow in the bamboo with water, blocking up the end with a wooden plug. This is then carried to the hut and lasts the family for several days, keeping cool and sweet in this novel receptacle. The larger bamboo trunks are used in the same way as receptacles for storing various household commodities.—World Wide Magazine.

**Changed With Time.**

The word "affectionate" is an instance of how meanings change, for an affectionate person was originally the reverse of agreeable, the word meaning passionate or willful. John Knox in 1554 writes of "the government of an affectionate woman" being "a rage without reason," and a century later another writer deprecates the evils of affectionate soldiers. And now, as any nursemaid knows, affectionate soldiers have no evils.—London Standard.

**Silenced.**

"Do you know, Clara, we ought not to subscribe to the opera any more. We bind ourselves, and afterward we have to hear the same things over and over again."

"As if that were any reason! I have also bound myself and have to hear the same things over and over again from you."—Meggendorfer Blatter.

**The Hottest Mines.**

It is said that the hottest mines in the world are those of the famous Comstock lode. On the lower levels the heat is so great that the men cannot work over ten or fifteen minutes at a time. Every known means of mitigating the heat has been tried in vain. Ice melts before it reaches the bottom of the shafts.

**The Postage Stamp Portraits.**

Thackeray's noted "postage stamp" picture of the English royal family was made by cutting the heads from postage stamps and mounting them on pen sketch bodies drawn by the author with his characteristic humor.

**Not Original Sin.**

Adam heard them blame the cost of living on the middleman.  
"The only thing they don't blame on the first man," he thankfully observed.—New York Sun.

**Wise Mabel.**

Mother—Mabel, why do you take two pieces of cake? Mabel—'Cause, ma, you told me not to ask twice for it.—Puck.

No day is long enough to waste any of it nursing a grouch.—Chicago News.

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