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Are You Getting All the Gream?




## CONOTIONOF Thief TEllS OF ITS DIET

Nitrates, Sugar and Starch Needs Revealed.

MUST BE BALANCED
ly of Most (Important
of Pruninated by Meth
(By the Orewn Acrieultural Coliege)
The growth and fruiting conditions of every orchard tree may be interpreted by the relationship of molsture
and nitrates on the one hand to carboand nitrates on the one hand to carbo-
hydrates on the other, explains Prof. C. I. Lewis, chiet of the division of horticulture. Some conditions favor
nelther vigor nor truit some faver vigor without fruit, and some favor Abundance of moisture and mineral nutrients including nitrates, with shortage of available carbohydrates,
indicates weakened vegetation and
Abundance of molsture and mineral nutrients including nitrates, coupled with an available carbohydrate supply. but barrenness and sterility,
A decrease in the ratio of nitrates cumulation of carbohydrates and for fruitfulness and fertility.
out prevention of increase of withhydrates makes for suppression of both vegetation and fruitfulness. Moisture and mineral nutrients
come up from the ground while carbo-hydrates-sugars and starches-are manufactured in the leaves from atmospheric gases and materials ob-
tained through the roots. Orchardist tained through the roots. Orchardists
may learn from the condition of the may learn from the condition of the
three fust which of these plant foods is needed to balance up the diet, some of the most common conditions being outlined by Protessor Lewis ns fol-
The first group, too low a ratio of carbohydrates to molsture and mineral nutrients including, nitrates, is
illustrated by a tree that has been entirely dehorned, leaviag only a stub.
The tree cannot utilize the nutrients from the ground because the sugars
and starches have been removed and and starches have been removed and
the tree has not enough stored food the tree has not enough stored food
in the wood nor the foliage for making and umining it. The tree is likely to A less pronounced form of the same condition is illustrated in a tree excessitvely summer pruned. Large
amounts of wood and leaves have been amounts of wood and leares have been
removed, taking away carbohydrates and also the leaves for manufacturing more insufficient amounts. The tree becomes dwarfed and devitalized. The condition in group two, trees
with an abundance of moisture and nitrates and also carbohydrates, is seen in a young tree from one to five
years old, growing in rich soll and years old, growing in rich soll and
pruned rather heavily in the dormant
season. The orchard practices have season. The orchard practices have
encouraged strong and vigorous
growth with very little fruit. Conditions in group three, with a Well-balanced supply of moisture and
mineral nutrients, and carbohydrates, are frequently seen in well cared for trées from nine to fifteen years old.
Both wood and fruit are produced. This result was brought about by detrates in trees from group two, bring. ing vigorous young trees into vigorous
fruiting without unduly blocking vege Truiting without unduly blocking vege-
tative growth. The bearing trees are healthy and continue to grow.
Group four is Mlustrated by trees
in many of the older orchards of the northwest, situated on light solls. The trees are loaded with fruit spurs but make but little growth and produce
but scant fruit, and that of inferior but scant fruit, and that of inferion
quality. The same process that brought the tree so successfully from the second into the third or bearing group has gone too far and unless
remedted the tree has reached the end of its usefulness. It is here that application of nitrate of soda or use of other means of restoring the mols-
ture and nitrate supply, works wonders. The old tree begins to put forth now life, wew
and bear.

