Among the Orchards of the Northwest

A Page of Interesting Advice and Information About Fruits, Large and Small.

To get best results from berry fields it is necessary to train the plants to some sort of trellis for the support of the canes. The kind of trellis to use and the method of training depend upon the kind of berries and their habit of growth. Red rasp-berries and high-bush blackberries whose habit of growth is upright are usually trained on a different sort of trellis from trailers such as Loganberries and Evergreen blackberries.

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. BY J. L. STAHL

HERE are several methods or sysnow in use, some of which are excellent while others are not so desirable, two inches above and an inch neares System A. Many berry growers use a trellis made of two No. 14 wires made for two more wires. strung horizontally on cross pieces made of 2x4's. The cross pieces are usually 12 to 16 inches in length and nailed to into the holes from the top of the board used and set about two feet in the rated. With this system of training the position with no tying. new canes are often in the way during

jured by the pickers. System B. Another method of train this way the young canes are not in-ing uses a double trellis having two jured during harvesting and do not incross pieces and four wires. One pair terfere with the fruiting canes. Pickof these wires are placed at a height ing is done from both sides of the row. of two feet, and the other pair at a This system makes harvesting easy and height of four and half feet from the the foliage dries quickly after a rain. ground. With this system the old or The fruiting canes are usually cut back bearing canes are bent over and held to a height of six feet, making the firm by weaving them to the wires on fruiting season a little later than when one side and the new shoots are allowed some of the other systems of training to grow upright between the pairs of are used. wires and out of the way of the bearing canes. The posts and cross pieces of the trellis are very similar to those of the preceding system. Growers using this method of training are very much pleased with it and claim the fruit is about three feet apart between indieasily picked and the new canes very seidom disturbed or injured at harvest is very similar to System A described

System C. Some growers instead of having either a single or double trellis of horizontal wires and cross pieces have but one wire from post to post on which the bearing canes are fastened. It is usually stretched between four and five feet in height. The canes are sometimes woven to the wire but quite often are bent over and tied. The new canes are allowed to grow erect and shortly before harvest time they are tied to a temporary wire.

Old French Method.

can be used in fields having rows set seven feet apart.

placed about a foot to the east of each row. The trellis is made by using eightfoot posts ten inches to a foot in diameter. They are set three feet in the ground about fifty feet apart. Posts seven feet in length may be substituted but they must be set closer. A wire is sretched from post to post, three feet from the ground, and on the side of the posts nearest the plants. The bearing canes are drawn over to the wire and securely tied with string. On the opposite side of each post and ten or twelve inches higher another wire is stretched. The bearing canes hang over this wire a height of forty inches. They like this but are not tied to it. As the fruit is method better than the preceding one. developed the canes gradually droop un. With both systems the canes may all til they rest on the upper wire. They be trained in the same direction but are thus supported and can oe easily usually half of the bearing canes in pushed to one side without injury as each hill and half of the young canes the fruit is picked. All of the picking is done from the east side of the row and the new canes are not disturbed. The Loganberries are the same as for Evernew or young canes grow erect and are greens.

held in place by stretching a temporary wire on the west side of them and a few ing the canes on a double trellis have to take their place. inches below the lower wire of the three wires, one above the other, and trellis ti which the bearing cames are about eighteen or twenty inches apart, closer in the rows than with other system. Stretching of the temporary wire Th bearing cames are curled, snail fash tems of training. may be done any time after the young ion, over one wire and under the next cames are three or four feet in height instead of serpentine fashion above and and before harvest. With this system below cross strips. The young canes are electric traction on a large scale obof training the pickers are in the shade allowed to remain on the ground under tained much of its equipment from the of the plants most of the day. Cultivating is made no harder than with other systems and the canes are given every opportunity for development.

System E Given.

System E. A few growers who do not care for early berries are adopting the following system. Posts are set and cross pieces attached as in system A, but at a height of five feet. The cross pieces are of one-inch boards six inches in width and about sixteen inches in length.

Instead of stapling the wires to the cross pieces, holes are bored about two inches from the ends and three inches tems of training red raspberries, from the top of each board. Through now in use, some of which are exeach end of the board other holes are

A notch is made to the top holes with a saw so that wires can be easily pushed upright posts at a height of about four The top wires are strung loosely until and a half feet. Seven-foot posts are the canes are in place. The fruiting canes of each hill are divided; half are ground and thirty to forty feet apart. placed outside of the lower wire on one The canes are kept between the wires side and half the same way on the other and out of the way during cultivation, side. The upper wire is then drawn but the old and new canes are not sepatight and the canes held securely in

There is a space of twelve inches beharvesting and are sometimes badly in tween each lower wire in which the young canes are allowed to develop. In this way the young canes are not in-

High-Bush Blackberries.

The high-bush blackberry is sometimes set in hills six feet apart each way, but more often the plants are set in rows seven or eight feet apart and vidual plants. The method of training for training red raspberries. When the fruits are patrially developed, the fruiting shoots are drawn to the outside of the trellis, where they hang in easy

reach of the pickers.

System F. Most of the trailer blackberries, such as Evergreen, are ported by a double trellis quite like that used in System B for red raspberries. but the posts are set closer and cross pieces of wood or wire connect each pair of wires. The posts are usually set sixteen to twenty- four feet apart and the cross strips on the wires are at Any of the systems so far montioned intervals of twenty four or thirty inches. The lower pair of wires supports the young canes as they are de-System D. A plan of training very veloped and the upper trellis holds the much like the old French method has bearing canes. The cross strips or slats been tried by some growers and is being adopted in a number of newly set of wood. They are held to the wires fields. The rows are set north and by notches in the wood or by stapling south, eight feet apart, and trellis one end of the strip to one wire and driving a shingle nail in the other end in such a manner that it hooks over the other wire. The strips can thus easily be removed when the canes are cut out or raised. The canes are trained sorpatin fashion above and below the cross strips and held firmly to thetrellis. After the bearing canes have produced a crop they are cut out and the young canes raised in their place.

Loganberries.

System G. A few growers train the young canes at a height of five feet six inches and the bearing canes below at

Some of the growers instead of train- have been removed and then are trained neath the trellis until the bearing canes United States.

With this plan the plants may be set

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