

Orchard and Garden

Raising Black Caps

SOIL for the berries should be fairly fertile, free from sod or roots, such as quack or blue-root grass and all foul weeds. Plow rather deep, and harrow until the earth is perfectly fine and pliable. Too much manure has been known to bring on "the yellows," a disease fatal to berry plants. And let it be said right here, if any yellow plants are ever discovered they should be pulled up at once and promptly burned.

Mark the ground with a corn marker three feet each way. Set every row one way, and every other one the other way—making the rows three feet by six feet.

Plants should be set as soon in the spring as they are large enough—say from four to six inches high. Put them in deep; six inches is a good depth. They must have a good, firm rooting to help the heavy plants withstand the hard winds the following years.

Cultivate and hoe often enough to keep the field free from weeds. The more often the soil is stirred the greater will be the yield. In a dry season frequent cultivation draws the moisture to the surface and helps to tide the plants over until the rain comes. Sod will soon "run out" berry bushes. Keep the land level and clean.

If no young plants are wanted for the next year, this finishes the first season. If, however, new sets are desired, either for home use or for sale, this is the way to get them. By the



way, plants in the spring sell all the way from \$3 to \$10 a thousand, according to supply and demand.

Early in September bury the ends in the ground about two inches. A trowel makes a good tool for this purpose.

In the spring sever the young set, where it is four or six inches high, from the mother plant. Trim all the other ends on the old plant as far back as they are dead.

Cultivate frequently as long as it can be done without injuring the ripening fruit, perhaps until two or three weeks before picking time.

During the time that the crop is being gathered the canes for next year's harvest will be getting tall. The patch will need to be gone over several times during July and August and the ends of the canes snipped off to about three feet high, in order that new shoots may come out to make larger, healthier bushes.

After the crop is harvested, take out the old bushes with a long-handled, short-bladed knife, made for the purpose, being careful not to harm the young canes. However, if there are too many young canes in a hill, reduce the number to four or five. If well cared for a patch will last six years.

Quantity and Quality

WHILE to many it will seem a waste to pick a part of the fruit from the trees and discard it, yet, with few exceptions, that is what should be done. Of course, where the tree is bearing only a light crop, little or no thinning of the fruit is necessary, but most trees bear too much rather than too little fruit, to form a crop of the proper quantity and quality. The idea in thinning is that it is better to have a tree bear two large, healthy, well-flavored pieces of fruit than three knotty, diseased, ill-flavored ones. When thinning out the fruit we utilize the culls for feeding hogs and poultry, so

that there is no waste of the products removed from the trees.

There is no set rule by which one can gauge the culling-out, but it is difficult to overdo the matter, since the fruit will grow so much before harvest time. Usually it is safe to pull every piece of fruit that shows the least signs of worms or the blight of decay, since such fruit either will drop off the tree before picking time or prove worthless for storage or marketing purposes.

If such products as those mentioned above are left on the tree, they are apt to cause all the fruit to be contaminated by decay or become infested with worms and thus ruined. By getting all these undesirable pieces of fruit out of the way that which is of good quality will have a better chance for proper development, while it is a loss of the tree's vitality to sustain and develop a greater quantity of fruit than it can properly nourish, or to promote the growth of worthless or inferior products. It should be mentioned that the fruit produced where thinning has been thorough and careful is not only of superior quality for storage and home consumption, but it will command a premium price on any market. These two points, together with the promotion of a longer and more useful life among the fruit trees, should commend the thinning of fruit to all farmers.

Flowers on the Farm

WHEN the farmer, with up-to-date methods for land cultivation, applies them in beautifying the farm home or yard, he will have done much toward solving the problem of keeping the boys and girls in the country.

There is one way to beautify his grounds that is within the reach of every farmer. That is the planting of flowers.

It is better to use good taste in selecting a few standard varieties than to experiment with the rarer but less hardy plants. For the May flower bed or border, the colens is indispensable. It has no flower, its chief claim to beauty lying in the dark reddish, or vari-colored leaves. The so-called "Joseph's Coat" is another good foliage to use in massed beds. Among hardy bloomers is the canna, with broad, graceful leaf and crimson blossom. The canna bulb may be set out as soon as the frost has left the ground.

In combination with violets, the velvety pansy presents a scheme of deep

rich color. When the violets cease blooming the foliage salvias can be used as a "fill-in."

If the old-fashioned garden, with its indiscriminate flower massing, is preferred, a host of flowers, dear to our grandmothers, presents itself. Hollyhocks, cosmos, larkspur, poppies, perennial phlox, sweet williams and pinks breathe the very essence of old-fashionedness.

In order to have success with any flower two things are necessary, cultivation and a sufficient supply of manure. In extreme hot weather a straw mulch about the roots serves as a good retainer of moisture. There will be very little trouble caused by insects on outdoor plants. In case there is, a prepared tobacco extract serves as a good remedy. Different flowers call for soils of varying richness, but with judicious fertilization, a comparatively rich soil may be obtained. The best fertilizer, well-rotted manure, should be worked into the ground every year after the flowers have ceased blooming.

Dormant Sprays

PROFESSOR C. M. GILLETTE of Ft. Collins, Colorado, in speaking of dormant sprays for orchard trees, says it is difficult to recommend the best sprays without knowing the particular insects or diseases that are to be treated. However, strange it may seem, it is a fact nevertheless that many fruitgrowers spray without spraying for some particular reason, but simply because their neighbor is spraying with something for something for which the grower may have or may not have. The fruit-grower should never spray without spraying for some particular purpose, some pest or some disease, and he should know the remedy he applies is the best that can be used for the purpose. Professor Gillette recommends lime and sulphur as a dormant spray especially good for the destruction of brown mites, red spiders, San Jose scale and other scale. Professor Gillette also states that lime and sulphur is not of much value in controlling plant lice and of no service in controlling codling moth. While all fruit-growers probably know that lime and sulphur is of no value in controlling codling moth, there are some who are inclined to believe it will kill plant lice. Professor Gillette has carried on a very extensive work in reference to controlling of plant lice,

therefore his opinion should be of great value.

CLEAN CULTIVATION.

PRACTICE clean cultivation in the orchard from the beginning if possible. It means better care in so many other ways. It means better acquaintance with every tree in the orchard, and consequently better attention to its needs. In particular, it means less borers, and in localities where they are troublesome this is a very important point.

If absolutely impossible to cultivate, on account of the steepness of the land, then practice the so-called "so-culture" method; that is, mow the grass and weeds which grow on the land, and leave them for a mulch about the trees.

Proof of Excellence

will be given anyone who tries a can of Crescent Baking Powder. It raises the dough and does it perfectly.

If You Eat

cake or biscuits, read Bulletin No. 103, U. S. Dept. of Agriculture. Learn the truth about aluminum compounds in baking powder.

Ask us for copy.

CRESCENT MFG. COMPANY
Seattle, Wash.



25c lb. All Grocers

Lewis Audible Speed Indicator



A speed indicator that attaches to any make of cream separator. Rings a bell until the right speed is reached, then audibly clicks—and at overspeed is silent. By mail, postpaid, \$3.25. Descriptive circular on request.

COLUMBIA DAIRY SUPPLY COMPANY
PORTLAND, OREGON



GUARANTEED

To skim closer (warm or cold milk) than any other cream separator in the world.

That's a strong guarantee, but it is made only after the Iowa has demonstrated its superiority as a close and thorough skimmer in competitive tests all over the country. In test after test the IOWA has carried off the honors not by accident or by luck but because it proved itself to be the best machine over all others. The Iowa is getting all the cream for thousands and thousands of farmers, many of them in the Northwest. These users like the Iowa and those who have had experience with other makes say the Iowa is far the best investment in cream separators a dairy farmer can make.

The Patented Curved Disc IOWA Bowl
Skims to a Trace.

The Iowa bowl is a positive guarantee of all the cream under any and all conditions. It is the result of years of experience in building cream separators and is fully protected by patents. In all other particulars the Iowa is right up to standard. It has a low non-splash supply can. It is easily cleaned and free running. Its gearing is entirely enclosed in the metal base that is dust and water proof. These gears are so perfectly made and the oiling is so thorough that they are practically wear proof.

Low Prices Big Inducement.

The Iowa prices are extremely reasonable and the Iowa guarantee is so broad that no dairy farmer should hesitate to provide himself with an Iowa, get all the cream and save the constant loss caused by poor separators.

Write us today for quotations on the Iowa Separator. It will give us pleasure to make prices and places you under no obligation to us. Please mention this paper.



Portland, Or.
Spokane, Wash.
Boise, Ida.

The Heart of the Iowa

