

ORCHARD GLEANINGS

RIGHT DEPTH FOR PLANTING

Character of Soil and Climate Should Govern—Roots Get Started If Planted in Fall.

The character of the soil and the climate of a region should no doubt govern the depth to which the roots of a fruit tree should be set. For most sections it is generally recommended that the roots be set a little deeper than they stood in the nursery. Very deep planting has been emphasized in the prairie states of the northwest, where there is danger of root injury by severe winters. Deep planting is also preferred in the plains where rainfall is very limited and the ground becomes very dry in winter. No doubt the roots should be set deeper in loose, sandy soils than in heavier soils. Most Missouri growers of long experience advocate setting a little deeper than the trees stood in the nursery. Many who have had limited experience set their trees much deeper than this, with the idea that the trees will stand straighter and firmer and that the roots are thus secured against dying out.

At the University of Missouri College of Agriculture shallow planting has given better results than deep planting. This point has been tested repeatedly in different years and the results of deep and shallow planting have been observed in many orchards of the state. The results indicate that a majority of the trees set in Missouri are planted too deep. Deep set roots, especially if spring planted, start growth slowly. The trees usually sway in the wind until a funnel-shaped cavity is formed in the moist soil about the base of the trunk. Borers enter the trunk below ground more readily where such a cavity is formed than in shallow planted trees around which a dust mulch may be retained in close contact with the base of the trunk. Mice find shelter in the soil cavity about a deep-set tree and often girdle it. "Root rot" occurs much more frequently in trees set deep.

If trees are set in autumn they may be set an inch or so deeper than they stood in the nursery. The soil at this season is aired and warmed to a greater depth. New root growth starts in early winter on the lower roots which become established for early spring growth. If trees are transplanted in spring they should be set no deeper than they stood in the nursery. If the soil is heavy, spring-set trees should stand a little shallower than they stood in the nursery. In the case of spring-set trees, new root growth starts first on the roots nearest the surface of the soil, which is better aired and which warms up first.

PITS NOT GOOD FOR STORAGE

Make-shift Quarters Are Not Satisfactory for Keeping Apples—Ventilation is Lacking.

(Prepared by the United States Department of Agriculture.)
Pits, caves, and other make-shift quarters do not provide satisfactory storage for apples because it is impossible to ventilate and insulate such



Apples, Piled, Graded and Ready for Storage.

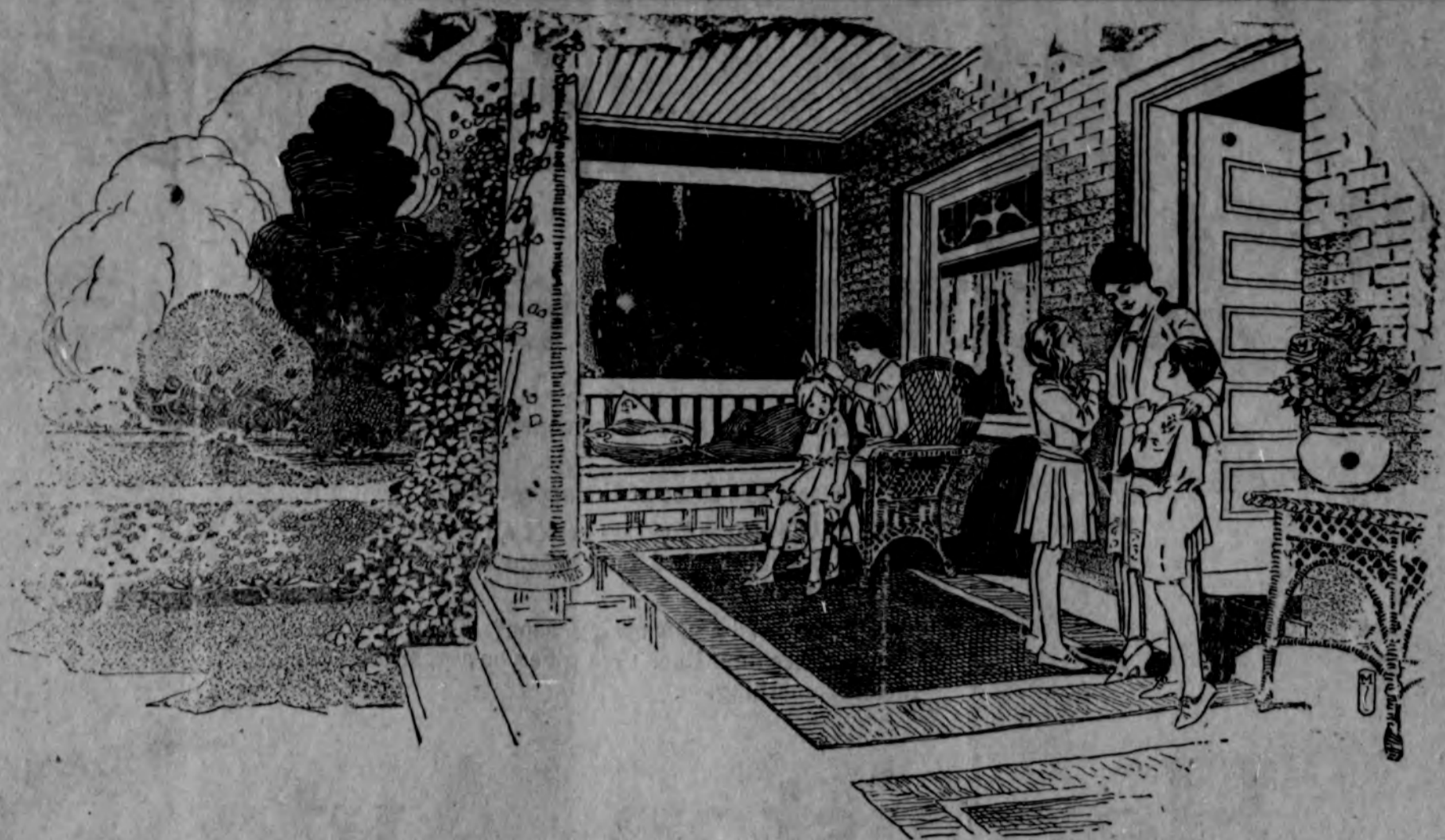
structures. Hence, it is almost impossible in them to hold the fruit at a low temperature such as is necessary to prevent deterioration.

The temperature of the earth a few feet below the surface remains at approximately 55 degrees throughout the year, and in pit or basement storages which are not properly insulated and ventilated heat is constantly given off from the surrounding earth, and it is difficult to reduce the temperature below 40 degrees. The standard temperature for the storage of practically all varieties of apples ranges from 31 to 32 degrees Fahrenheit.

NEW CROP OF RASPBERRIES

It Will Pay Farmer to Root His Own Plants—Tips Should Go Down Soon as Possible.

If you have a good healthy plantation of Black-cap raspberries and want to make a new planting next spring, it will pay to root your own plants. The tips should go down as soon as possible. Cultivate thoroughly, dig a hole three or four inches deep, place the tip in it, cover and firm the soil over tip with the foot.



Is Your House Your Home?

You Will Never Know the Real Happiness of Home Until You are a Home Owner!

There was a time when farming meant self-denial. This was before porcelain bathtubs, telephones, electric lights, automobiles and well-built homes were found on farms. In passing, it might also be added that it was about this time that parents were finding difficulty in keeping their boys and girls on the farms.

Today nothing is denied the farmer that is enjoyed by his city brother. This is particularly true of the home. Picture the home shown above on YOUR farm. It can be built there.

Many farmers who have the refinement and good taste to desire to improve their home conditions are putting off building until prices become lower. Do they know when lower prices will be brought about? Or that they ever will?

Every farmer expects to pay higher wages during this harvest than last. And present indications point to still higher wages for 1921. There is really very little hope of bringing down the present scale of wages. The aim is now to prevent it from going higher.

To a great degree, labor influences the prices of all commodities. When labor is high, materials are high.

If labor goes higher, materials will again advance. And everything tends to show that prices have not yet reached their peak.

Last year you could have built for less than you can this year. This year it will cost you less than next. This is the reason we are preaching the doctrine of BUILD NOW. This is true not only of your farm home, but of your outbuildings as well. Don't go on denying yourself the comforts and pleasure that a modern home will afford you on the farm, while you wait for prices to go down. BUILD NOW, it's cheaper!

We are prepared to offer every building assistance to the farmer who has foresight enough to BUILD NOW. We have photographs of houses we have actually built for him to choose from. We have hundreds of plans for farm homes and out buildings, and their cost estimates. They are his for the asking.

Make use of our Building Information Office. It was established for your benefit. There is not the slightest obligation imposed by you using it. This information is worth coming a long way to turn to your own advantage. Use it!

BUILD NOW—U. S. FIVE YEARS BEHIND IN BUILDING — ENORMOUS DEMAND—KEEPS PRICES APPROXIMATELY SAME.

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