

CLOSE PRUNING AND TYING OF RASPBERRIES.



FOR several years back a wealthy neighbor in sight of my home, has had a raspberry patch which he has pruned very closely in August and kept tied to small stakes scarcely larger than bean poles and four and one-half feet high. The varieties are Gregg and some early variety, probably Souhegan. Thorough cultivation has been given by plowing in the spring and cultivating after fruiting. The canes are allowed to grow at will until after picking when the old wood is removed and the new tied to the stakes and the ends cut off about five feet high. Short laterals grow after this pruning and contrary to what one would suppose, do not winter kill any worse than when pinched early in the season. I think this plantation must be about ten years old, and up to last year was wonderfully productive. Last year anthracnose injured a part of it, but there is a little this year. However I think it has seen its best days and should be cleared up and the ground treated to rotation crops.

Nearer home a young gardener is practicing the same method and his plantation seems wonderfully productive, but what the yield is I am unable to say as I dislike to ask him. He might think it none of my business and give me an answer that might not tally with the facts. He does not have a stake for every hill but uses No. 12 wire with stakes 20 or more feet apart. The merit of the plan lies in the effect that the canes are up out of the way and secure from breaking by wind, ice, or snow, and the fruit gets abundant light and air and is easy to pick. The young gardener grows early cabbage, beets, onions, radishes and lettuce in rows between the raspberries which are seven feet apart, one way, and three the other. The plantation is close to the barnyard and manure is applied with a wheelbarrow. The manure helps the berry crop, and it is possible the berries use some portion not needed by the vegetables. I am thinking of wiring up an acre which I planted four feet apart, believing that I can get enough more from it to pay for the work and expense with a handsome profit to boot. —L. B. Pierce, E. F. G.

A Medina, N.Y., letter dated June 13, says: "Orleans County fruit growers have a new apple destroyer to contend with in the form of a small green worm which eats into the apple itself when it has begun to form. The worm is smaller than the dark worm which sometimes attacks the matured fruit and eats its way into the heart of the apple, causing it to wither and die. Some orchards in this vicinity are most devastated by this new pest. In the early spring the most promising fruit was the Baldwin, which is grown in large quantities throughout the country. This apple has come along so rapidly, however, that many orchards are far in advance of the season. In several large orchards the fruit will be premature. Already in some cases the Baldwin has begun to color, though the apple is but one-third the usual size."—Fruit Trade Bulletin.