

Artificial Fertilizers for Raspberries and Other Fruits.

651. SIR,—What is the best fertilizer for raspberries? How much is best to apply to a hill, or to an acre of berry bushes; soil, a strong clay loam.

W. P. R., *Oshawa.*

Probably half a pound each of superphosphate and of muriate of potash, would not be too much for raspberry bushes. This could be applied at any time; and in the growing season, nitrate of soda about an equal quantity. Which of these fertilizers your soil most needs, and the amount, can only be proved by actual experiment, and it would be well to try the phosphates on one portion and the potash on another, keeping careful notes of the results.

Trees for Street Planting.

652. SIR,—The village of East Toronto have under consideration the planting of all their graded streets on some uniform system. I would like your opinion with regard to the trees most suitable for the purpose. The trees native to the place are the pine, black and white oak, with an occasional maple, but this last tree does not seem to be a long liver with us, for when they are four or five inches in diameter they die off, probably because the roots reach the dead sand which underlies our surface soil. The plan recommended to us by an experienced amateur is to plant trees forty feet apart from side to side of the street, and, if elm will grow in our soil, to plant these sixty or seventy feet apart, giving permission to the owners to plant other trees between, if they desire. On our main streets and on the streets where the electric cars run, we propose to plant the trees fifty feet apart from side to side, in place of forty.

R. MORTON, *Toronto, Ont.*

It is a very important matter to select the proper kind of tree for such planting. The maple is somewhat unsatisfactory in certain conditions of soil and climate, and where it does make a thrifty and vigorous growth, the foliage is too dense for a street tree; besides, it so completely hides the view of the buildings and shuts in from the inhabitants every pleasant prospect, that we do not at all admire it for the street. The oaks are magnificent trees, but rather rugged in appearance, and entirely lacking in that gracefulness which should characterize street shade trees. We know of no tree that will be as suitable for your purpose, providing it is adapted to your soil, as the American White Elm (*Ulmus Americana*). This tree grows to a height of eighty or more feet. Its arching limbs at a lofty height give it a most graceful appearance, and it is not so dense as to close in the pleasant prospect. The trunk and larger branches are often heavily covered with short and leafy boughs, and streets planted with these trees become columned and arched like the aisles of a cathedral. Any one who has visited the city of Syracuse, N. Y., will be impressed with the magnificence of this tree. Several of the finest avenues are thus arched, both over the carriage-way and the foot-path, with these noble trees; the elms of Boston are also famous. Do not mistake and plant the Slippery Elm (*Ulmus fulva*), which is very common in Canada, in place of the American elm, for it is a tree which does not reach more than half the height of the White elm, and in every way is inferior to the other. The distances which you mention for the planting the trees apart are about right.