

the plants may then be separated and planted out in nursery rows. It is advisable especially in the more northern sections, to delay planting till the spring, or else heavily mulch the transplanted plants to prevent unfavorable weather conditions heaving them out.

SOIL AND LOCATION.

Currants and gooseberries are surface feeding plants, which fact largely determines their soil requirements.

Currants will do well on most soils, but prefer a cool, moist, fairly heavy soil, as their natural habitat would indicate. A rich well-drained clay loam will be found most suitable. Gooseberries require a similar type of soil, though a little heavier and moister. In dry soils gooseberries are apt to suffer from premature falling of the foliage, thus exposing the fruit so that it becomes scalded by the sun's rays. The surface of light soils, unless shaded by trees, gets very hot in summer, which is not best for the fruit as it induces mildew. A northern exposure is to be preferred for both currants and gooseberries as such a location is not so likely to suffer in a dry season. A northern site too, may in part offset the disadvantage of an unfavorable soil.

Some reduction in the intensity of the sun's rays will be found advantageous, especially with gooseberries, shading and the cooler atmosphere helping to control the mildew. Gooseberries, too, are susceptible to sun scalding. They scald very easily if left out in the hot sun, or if the bushes are very open. Currants and gooseberries therefore often thrive well in the orchard. One of the most successful growers of gooseberries in the Niagara district has part of his gooseberry plantation in the peach orchard. He considers this block of gooseberries as the most profitable he has, and says that the plants thrive better under the peach trees and bear far better than where the fruit is grown in the open; also the fruit is cleaner and freer from mildew, and the pickers find their work more agreeable in the shade of the peach trees. Further, there are two crops coming off the land—gooseberries and peaches. This shading is, of course, most satisfactory and necessary in those districts, such as the Niagara, which have a much warmer climate than that naturally favored by gooseberries. Mulching tends to accomplish the same end, since it keeps the soil shaded and cool. The above remarks apply equally as well to currants, which will also be found to do better in shaded locations, especially in the southern parts of our Province.

The same grower, in discussing further his gooseberry plantation in the peach orchard, states that in his experience English gooseberries thrive best on sandy loam soil. This is somewhat contrary to the generally accepted practice, but is likely explained wholly or in part by the shade from the peach trees, which would offset the need of a heavier soil, that is, a cooler soil. Mr. R. B. Whyte of Ottawa states that; "Mildew, the great enemy of the English gooseberry in this country, results from planting in sandy soils. The roots of gooseberry bushes run close to the surface and consequently they become scorched. They should be planted in soil that wont heat, such as heavy clay loam." This apparently conflicts with the statement of the Niagara fruit grower, but, as noted above, the shading probably accounts for the difference in opinion.

PLANTING.

Preparation of the Soil.—Thorough preparation of the soil is necessary before planting currants or gooseberries. They are heavy feeders so that the land should receive a heavy dressing of well-rotted stable manure, be plowed deep, and