


FRUITS AT SIMCOE STATION.

RASPBERRIES.

UTHBERT still stands at the head in point of quality. The Columbian is the greatest bearer. Fruit large, excellent for canning, but would not ship well, I fancy, as it is not very firm when quite ripe, and it must not be picked before it gets its purple color, or it lacks flavor. But it is a prodigious bearer and should find a place in every garden.

Turner is simply a wild berry, of good flavor, but too small and soft for market. "Louden" and "Miller" bore a few berries this year and they seem to be very fine. We still favor "Shaffer's" for canning, it is quite hardy and bears well here.

Of the Black Caps I have tried so far, I think "Smith's Giant" takes the lead. I have fruited it two years. I like it better this year than last; it is a good bearer. Fruit large and quite firm, resembles the Gregg, but is of better quality. Canes only slightly affected with anthracnose, and quite hardy.

Lovett is a failure here; Palmer very good, but not so productive as Smith's or "Older." Hillborn is of good quality, but too small. Older is a splendid berry for home use, very productive, quality first class, but too soft to ship very far. But I would advise anyone planting for home use, to be sure to plant a few of the "Older," as, for using fresh on the table, they are far and away the best of all the Black Caps.

BLACKBERRIES.

Agawam has fruited well this year, and I do not quite agree with Mr. Peart, as to its quality, though it certainly lacks flavor until quite ripe. The

canes are healthy and have proved quite hardy so far. The fruit is large and fine looking. "Taylor," growing alongside of it, makes a very poor showing in comparison. I only succeeded in growing one plant of the Gainor. It has not fruited yet, for which I am sorry, as Mr. Peart praises it highly. I am anxious to know if it will do as well here as at Burlington.

"Wilson, Jr." is so badly affected with anthracnose, as to be almost useless. But I believe we have struck something fine in the "Eldorado."* The canes are very healthy and just as hardy as the Snyder. The fruit is large, firm, and the quality all that could be desired. I am highly pleased with this variety and expect great things of it. Erie has not fruited yet, and from the appearance of the canes, I should judge it will not amount to much here.

Of course all these varieties of berries need further trial, as nothing conclusive is proved from one or even two years' fruiting. It is the varieties that give the best results for several years, that are going to be the most valuable. One important fact I have learned and would wish to emphasize, is that those who wish to succeed in growing Raspberries and Blackberries, will have to spray their bushes with Bordeaux mixture.

I notice the disease known as anthracnose getting worse every year. It does not seem to affect the vigor of the young canes, the first year, but, by the next year, it has spread over a large part of the surface like a rust, and the canes turn yellow and often die before fruiting. I am planting my rows now eight feet apart, so as to be able to drive between them with a spraying rig. A low-wheeled truck would be the thing,

* Eldorado is not going to be so productive as Agawam.