spongy, making it more easily worked and less subject to injury from drought. Manure may be applied for strawberries in large quantities where it can be had. Twenty to fifty tons to the acre is none too much for ordinary soils.

Where the soil is rich but heavy and subject to bake, it may be mellowed by turning under other green crops. Rye or winter wheat are good. They may be sown in the fall and turned under in spring, after they have made considerable growth. Grass sod ploughed under and allowed to rot usually leaves the ground in good condition for strawberries.

Wherever sod of any kind or green crops are turned under, the soil usually should be cultivated for a season or two to hoed crops before planting to strawberries, in order to rid the field of the white grub, one of the serious insect pests of the strawberry. The white grub usually infests soddy soil, but disappears when the soil is given clean cultivation for a season or two.

Wood ashes, when obtainable, are a good fertiliser for strawberries. They contain large quantities of potash, one of the essential forms of plant food required by the strawberry. They should be sowed thinly over the land and harrowed in while the soil is being prepared for setting the plants. They may also be applied to the old bed at the time it is being renewed and worked in between the rows.

On thin soils commercial fertilisers are sometimes used. The three principal plant food ingredients needed are nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash. The amount of each of these which should be applied differs in different soils. Some soils may lack only one of these essential ingredients; some may lack two of them. If the soil is generally poor, it is likely to lack all three. The safest way to determine which to apply is to try it on each soil. The chief source of nitrogen in commercial fertilisers is nitrate of soda and sulphate of ammonia. Either of these may be applied at the rate of from fifty to one hundred pounds per acre. Potash is secured in sulphate of potash, muriate of potash or kainit. The two former may be applied at the rate of fifty to one hundred pounds per acre, and the latter in much larger quantity. Phosphoric acid is usually purchased in the form of acid phosphate or in bone meal or dissolved bone. Two hundred pounds of either of these may usually be applied per acre.

The following is a copy of the questions which were sent out to some of the provincial growers:—

Will you be good enough to give me your opinion as to the best variety of strawberry to cultivate—

(*a.*) For home use to ensure a succession?
(*b.*) " local market?
(*c.*) " shipping?

What time of the year do you recommend for planting?

What system do you recommend—matted row, or hill system?

What method of cultivation do you recommend?

Do you recommend mulching? If so, at what season? With what material, and method?

The gist of the answers here follow:—

George R. Lawes, Enderby: Have had no experience with berries for home use or local market. The Magoon and Campbell, with me, bear the