

PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA.

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE.

Hints to Exhibitors at Fall Fairs.

(Revised by WM. J. BONAVIA, Secretary, from Bulletin No. 48.)

Boxed Fruits--Selection and Packing.

IN preparing for a show, skill and experience are bound to win. The novice may, however, by taking care to follow the hints given in these circulars and by observing their practical application in exhibitions, prepare some extremely satisfactory exhibits. In general displays of fruit and in district displays much depends on the attractiveness and arrangement.

Show fruit of all kinds should be sound, clean, well formed, and of good colour and shape for the variety. Broken skin, loss of stems, disease, decay, spray burning, worm-holes, stings, and blemishes of all kinds score against the exhibit. Where possible, exhibition fruit should be selected and picked from the tree so as to cause the least amount of handling and ensure against bruising, and spoiling some of the best specimens for show purposes.

SIZE.

All box displays should be in commercial packages, as the object of these displays is to encourage the highest types of fruit and packing for market purposes. The sizes of fruit should be those of the greatest commercial value for the variety.

COLOUR.

The colour should be high, and is scored higher than any other point in commercial packages.

UNIFORMITY.

Under uniformity we expect fruit to be as even in colour, size, shape, and condition as it is possible to get. This is the foundation of successful grading. Moreover, in every respect the fruit in the lower layers should be the same as those in the top rows.

QUALITY.

Quality is taken into consideration only when two varieties are in competition. In single-variety entry quality is rated for points for all entries. When varieties compete, quality refers to commercial quality, market preference, and includes keeping quality, and range of season as well.

PACKAGE AND PACKING.

New clean packages of correct standard size, evenly cut, should be used. The wood must be clean, and it is preferable not to have the brand exposed in the exhibits.

HEIGHTS AT ENDS FOR APPLES.

The bulge must slope gently to both ends, at which the fruit must be only about $\frac{1}{4}$ inch above each end. This is sufficient to provide tightness when the cover is nailed on. Lower ends may go slack, while, if higher, the fruit will be bruised by the cover.