

The sample of Cranberries which I exhibit here to-day was taken from a patch planted some 18 years ago, from vines procured from the marsh at St. Brigide, and for the last 15 years has rarely failed in furnishing an annual supply for family use.

The best way to select vines to plant, is to visit the nearest marsh during the month of September before the fruit is picked, as it enables one to make a better selection, for the fruit often differs in form, size, color and quality.

Be careful to take vines whose leaves are of a greenish-brown color, and avoid those of a bright shining green of a more luxuriant growth, as they will prove to be less productive.

It is unnecessary to dig the roots with the vines, as they grow readily from cuttings, and may be kept on the bottom of a damp cool cellar, or trenched in damp soil until spring, which is the best season to plant.

The soil best adapted to the Cranberry is muck of a spongy, peaty nature, which when squeezed in the hand will readily fall apart, and does not partake of a sticky, or clayey nature.

To prepare the ground it is first necessary to clear the surface from all scrub, turf, and weeds, leaving it as smooth as possible; dig a ditch from 2 to 3 feet deep and about the same width all around the plot selected, and if more than an acre in extent transverse ditches should be made to hold the water so drained from the bog, which makes a framework of damp coolness about the growing vines; then proceed to cover the surface with a layer of sand about 4 inches in depth, which should be free from vegetable matter and weed seeds; plant the vines in rows about two feet apart, using a line and making a drill with a hoe, or should the ground be sufficiently firm a horse and light plough might be used for this purpose. Bend the cuttings, which should be from 6 to 8 inches in length, and place in the drill or furrow so that the centre will be well covered with sand, leaving the two ends an inch or two above ground at equal distances in the row.

The ground should be cultivated and kept free from weeds for the first three years, or until the ground is well occupied with the vines, when the first real crop may be expected.

It is not absolutely necessary to flood the vines in order to obtain fruit, and a bog may be either dry or wet, but if circumstances favor the method of flooding, and some growers claim this to be an important point, it is wise to provide for this; for by so doing the grower will be in a position to guard against late frosts in the spring, which sometimes injure the fruit buds; as well as early frosts in the fall which often come before the crop is harvested, and also for drowning any insects which may attack the vine or fruit.

Fruit growers are looking for fruits that will do for the export trade, as well as for home consumption.

Here is one that should be more largely encouraged, for it will answer for both purposes, being a fruit which ships well and keeps fresh during the winter

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