

## FRUIT TREE FERTILIZER.

SIR,—Would you kindly give an early answer in the CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST, respecting the recipe for a complete fertilizer as issued in the March number. What could you substitute for the forty bushels of wood ashes, as such an article cannot be obtained in or near Toronto.

W. H. PARKER, *Mimico*,

SIR,—You will kindly allow me to correct the printers errors and to make an additional note in reference to the fruit fertilizer given by you in the February issue. I would recommend the following as an application per acre for fruits :

40 bushels of fresh hardwood ashes, @ 10c. . . . .	\$4 00
100 pounds of bone or bone black, @ 1½c. . . . .	1 50
100 pounds of nitrate of soda, or } . . . . .	3 50
75 " of sulphate of ammonia }	
	\$9 00

In place of the wood ashes, potash salts, such as the muriate or sulphate can be used, which will cost from three to four and a half cents per lb. of high quality (52% potash). Use about 150 lbs. of the best potash salt, which, however, will cost about \$6, and will give a little more than half the potash contained in the forty bushels of ashes. In case ashes are not available it would probably pay best to deal directly with a fertilizer manufacturer and buy his potash or fruit fertilizer ready mixed.

I make the change from sulphate of ammonia to nitrate of soda because I find that the price of the nitrate of soda varies with different dealers but very little, from three to three and a half cents a pound; whereas, for some unknown reason, we have had sulphate of ammonia quoted to us from 3¼ to 9 cents a pound.

In buying a potash fertilizer, such as the muriate or sulphate, the buyer should carefully note the amount of potash guaranteed, as it may vary from 50% to 10%. As a bushel of ashes contains from three to four pounds of potash he can readily make his comparison in value.

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POWDERY MILDEW OF THE GRAPE.—Prof. Scribner, in his new work on Fungus Diseases, recommends sulphur as the only remedy needed. He says: "Flowers of sulphur dusted on the vines (or in hot climates, simply spread over the ground beneath them), serves effectually to destroy the Powdery Mildew. No other treatment is necessary to protect the vines from this parasite. In regions where this fungus is most injurious, it is the custom of vineyardists to make at least three applications; first, when the young shoots are about four inches long; second, when the vines are in bloom; and third, just before the berries begin to color."