

gret having planted Kieffers, for they will form excellent trunks on which to top work the best varieties.

Hardy Apples

GREEN, of Minnesota, recommends the following varieties as being of the first degree of hardiness: Duchess, Hiberna, Charlamoff and Patten Greening; and of the second degree, Wealthy, Longfield, Tetofsky, Malinda, Okabena and Peerless.

The crabs and hybrids most recommended are Virginia, Martha, Whitney, Ealy Strawberry, Minnesota, Sweet Russet, Gideon No. 6, Briar Sweet, Florence and Transcendent.

In light dry soils in the cold sections it is recommended that the trees be planted 12 inches deeper than they grew in the nursery. This of course is with a view to escape frost, but while it may be helpful in this way, it has been shown that the size of the tree and the extent of the root development decreases in proportion to the depth of planting below the normal.

Don't Butcher Your Apple Trees

IT is discouraging to preach common sense in pruning apple trees, and to see so little of it used by our fruit growers in practice. The saw is being used unmercifully on every side, as if the trees were so many cordwood sticks, instead of living beings; and every year the lower limbs must come off and the fruiting branches grow higher and higher. Dougherty, of Indiana, has twenty acres of apple trees, which are an example of the wisdom of his system of pruning, which contemplates in the first place lower branch growth. All over his orchard this peculiar growth is noticeable, the branches often sweeping to and resting upon the ground. He claims (1) that these lower branches are the strongest and most vigorous, being closest to the root supply; (2) that the foliage in summer protects the

ground from the burning rays of the sun, and (3) that it greatly facilitates the gathering of the fruit.

We do not give this instance to induce every one to prune his trees so low as Dougherty has done. On certain soils not needing cultivation, or where mulching takes the place of tillage, it might answer; still it emphasizes the mistake of the opposite extreme.

Profitable Strawberry Growing

A COMMON mistake in planting strawberries consists in setting them too far apart and trusting to the runners to fill up the spaces. Far better plant too near and have your beds well covered, or your rows well matted, with bearing vines the first year. The rows may be set five feet apart if you choose, but 12 or 15 inches apart in the rows is surer of good results than any greater distance. Early potatoes, peas or beans may be grown between the rows the first year, and be harvested by the time the runners begin to occupy the space.

Several growers have recently reported in favor of Wm. Belt as being the best mid-season variety.

The Competitive Power Sprayers

THE time is so near at hand when spraying is to begin for the best success in fruit growing, that it is none too soon to consider whether we can improve upon our hand machines, considering cost. The two power sprayers most prominent at present are the Niagara Gas Sprayer and the Wallace Sprayer, both of which were shown at the recent meeting of the New York State fruit growers. The first is operated by carbonic acid gas, which gives the pressure without the use of any pump. The gas is shipped in reservoirs, just as soda fountain fillers are, and cost from $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{3}$ cent per gallon of liquid applied, with cost of freight added. The second was