

## Garden and Orchard.

## Notes on New Fruits.

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Many new varieties of fruits are introduced every year, many of them are of little value and pass into oblivion soon after dissemination. The Experimental Stations of the United States of America and Experimental Farms of the Dominion are doing a good work in testing new fruits and reporting on their respective value.

Our county has established a horticultural society; they have obtained a small grant of money from the county council, which is being used for the purchase of new varieties of fruits that are supposed to be valuable in this locality. These fruits will be planted with standard varieties, and those proving worthy will be propagated as rapidly and cheaply as possible and disseminated. This method of testing will be of much value to those intending to plant; they can see the new kinds growing side by side with the old standard varieties, which will enable them to make judicious selections for orchard planting. Never plant new kinds extensively, no matter how much they have been extolled by their disseminators; better plant standard varieties that are known to succeed best in your own locality. "Go slow on new varieties" until they have been thoroughly tested on such soil and under about the same treatment you will give them. Many sorts succeed admirably in their original homes, where soil and climate just suits them, that are of little value when removed from their place of birth.

**STRAWBERRIES.**—Among the new strawberries Pearl, Haverland, Crawford, Warfield, Jessie, Mrs. Cleveland, Monmouth, Ohio, Daisy, Gandy and Woodhouse are the most promising and valuable about in the order named, either for home use or market. Bubach and Woodruff, although not very new, are among the most profitable. Bubach is very large, and the plant is strong, vigorous and productive. The fruit is not firm enough for distant market. Woodruff is one of the finest in appearance and of good quality, very firm, will stand shipping as well, if not better, than any except the Wilson, which variety it will fully equal in this respect.

**RASPBERRIES.**—But few, if any, of the new varieties of raspberries now being offered are equal to some of the older sorts. Among reds none of them equal the Cuthbert. A good early market variety that would equal Cuthbert in other respects, and ripen a week or ten days earlier, would be of great value. None of the early kinds quite fills the bill, either for home use or market. Marlboro, although not satisfactory in all localities, is, perhaps, the best early red raspberry for market. Reider is quite a promising early sort, and may prove valuable in many parts of the country. It is strong, vigorous, healthy and productive. The fruit is larger than any other ripening as early. Thompson's Early Prolific, which is now being introduced by several firms, did not show any special merit at the Experimental Farm, Ottawa. The fruit is too small, it is little if any improvement on a number of old sorts. Golden Queen is the most valuable yellow sort grown; it is quite hardy, very healthy and productive, and of very good quality.

Among Blackcaps Palmer, Carman, Nemaha, Ada, Chapman, and several others were tested

at the Experimental Farm, Ottawa, and none of them proved equal to such old sorts as Tyler, Hilborn and Gregg. Johnson's Sweet is of good quality and very productive, but not as large as the Hilborn; the latter was the most profitable market sort tested at the above named Experimental Farm. It was fully described in a late number of the ADVOCATE.

**GRAPES.**—Quite a number of new grapes are worthy of trial. Eaton, a new, large, black grape of the Concord type, is very promising; it will average larger in both bunch and berry than any other sort with which I am acquainted. The vine appears to be vigorous, healthy and productive. Moore's Diamond is one of the most promising new white grapes; ripens early, good quality, and perhaps the nearest approach to white of any grape I have seen. Moyer is a small, dark red Canadian variety; it is one of the best in quality, bunch and berry small, ripens very early; the vine and fruit is somewhat of the Delaware class; the blossoms are nearly pistillate, hence, requires to be planted near other sorts. Among those that have been longer tested and found valuable are: Ulster Prolific, Woodruff Red, Wyoming Red, Vergennes and Jessica. For market purposes, plant Concord, Worden, Wilder, Agawam, Lindley and Niagara. These will give satisfaction in most localities.

**CURRENTS.**—Crandall currant is a new fruit worthy of trial. It belongs to the yellow-flowering Missouri class. The fruit is large, black, and not so rank in flavor as other black currants. It resembles the flowering currant in foliage and habit of growth. It appears to be quite productive and not troubled by insects. I do not think it will be valuable for market purposes.

## Fruit as Food.

BY L. WOOLVERTON, GRIMSBY, SECRETARY OF THE FRUIT GROWERS' ASSOCIATION OF ONTARIO, READ BEFORE THEIR LATE MEETING.

(Continued from May issue.)

Now if weight of testimony is of any use, here is another from a writer in Orchard and Garden. He says:—"When some of my pear trees littered the ground with their ripe mellow fruit, I fed them to my cows. A peck of pears, with two quarts of meal and bran for a noonday feed, increased the milk and butter one fourth, and when the apples were ripe, and only fifty cents a bushel could be got for them in the market, the horses, cows, pigs and fowls had all they wanted." And here are two quotations from the Michigan Farmer:—

Mr. Chas. Dame says:—"I have fed apples for twenty years quite extensively. During the past three years I have been feeding twelve cows with them. As soon as the apples attain any size and drop from the trees I have them picked up and thrown in the pasture. Some days the stock get as much as ten bushels and I can always see an increase of milk. The apples are of different varieties, but not very sour. Cut down all trees which produce apples that will not do to eat. I am feeding two bushels of Baldwins at one time to my cows and get an 8½ quart can of milk extra from the fruit."

Mr. E. A. Bradley says:—"I have been interested in discussing the value of apples for stock. I had last winter 600 bushels of apples and began by feeding them to my team, giving them at noon instead of grain and with apparent gain to the horses. If the team was hard at

work it probably would not answer. I had a pen of fattening hogs to which I had been feeding a bushel of apples for their noon feed. I had no means of making accurate tests, but think they did equally well. I also gave them to my cows, a peck at one feeding, with the result of increasing the yield both of milk and cream. I have also fed them all winter to pigs which I am keeping over. I am convinced that to feed apples to stock is as profitable and much more satisfactory than to sell them to be made into cider with the possibility, it not the probability, that its use will lead to the use of stronger intoxicants."

And to accumulate evidence, here is a quotation from a writer in the New York Tribune:—"A few years ago one of our largest apple-growers had a large lot of culls left over. He was offered 10 cents a bushel for them delivered to an evaporating and cider-making concern five or six miles away. Instead of selling them at that price, he bought hogs to eat them." I am at this time unable to recall the details of his method, but whatever other feed was given them was accurately weighed and measured, and the gross cost at market prices and all other expenses, except the labor of feeding the apples, were duly charged up against the hogs till they were killed and marketed, when it was found that the apples had netted him 35 cents a bushel. The only case of ill result was where a large herd of cows were turned into an orchard of several hundred trees, and permitted to gorge themselves without restraint. Like any other food, apples should be fed with much discretion, beginning with small rations and increasing them gradually."

For several years I have, myself, been experimenting in this direction, and must say that I am more than satisfied with the results. Last winter I fed a team of horses about seventy-five bushels of cull apples, which were unfit for shipping. They were fed with cut hay or cornstalks, and chop stuff made of peas and oats; and a part of the time, of corn and oats. The ration was made up about as follows:—One-half bushel cut hay, one peck apples and two quarts chop stuff. This was given the team twice a day when idle, and three times a day when at work, with about eight or nine pounds of hay at night. The result is that the team came through the winter in far better condition for work than ever before. There was no need of condition powders with that team. The old coat of hair was shed early in the spring, and the new one was remarkably sleek and smooth; and every one exclaimed on seeing them, "In what fine condition those horses are!" I tried the same diet on a two-year-old heifer, giving her the same ration twice a day. That beast is now as fine a one as can be seen for miles around, fat and sleek and healthy. I have therefore given up growing turnips and carrots for stock, for I find in my waste apples food as valuable for their nutritious qualities as roots, and more valuable for their condimental qualities.

Having then such numerous ways of disposing of our fruit crops, the encouragement becomes greater for growing them. We can evaporate, or feed to stock all second grade apples and pears, and thus relieve our markets of a class of apples which glut them with rubbish, and anger the busy housewife. Thus also we shall be able to cull closer our fruit for shipping, and only put up for export the choicest grades, which will bring the very highest prices, and secure for our Canadian apples the reputation which their excellence deserves of the very finest in the world.

Note:—Daily ration for cow and horses, owing to scarcity of hay, was:—One bushel cut cornstalks, one peck of apples, one quart of chop (peas and oats) three times a day.