

How to Apply Commercial Fertilizers.

838. SIR,—How can I apply commercial fertilizers to the soil in the cultivation of garden stuff, potatoes, corn, strawberries, and fruit trees to get the best result?

Reply by Professor Hutt, Ontario Agricultural College, Guelph.

There are so many kinds of commercial fertilizers, and such a variety of soils that I am inclined to believe that each grower must find out by his own experiments which fertilizers will give the best results on his soil. Barnyard manure is the best general fertilizer, and should not be discarded for any other until experiments have shown that something else will surpass it. The various kinds of special fertilizers may well be tried along with it, and the results noted. Nitrate of soda, in small quantities, should give good results on early vegetables. Superphosphate gives good results on soils lacking in phosphate. Unleached wood ashes is one of the cheapest and best potash fertilizers, and on light sandy soils give good results with nearly all crops. It is a specific fertilizer for fruit trees, vines and bushes. All of these fertilizers should be sown broadcast and worked into the soil with the cultivator.

Fruits for the Home Garden.

839. SIR,—Kindly name the best varieties of fruits for the home garden,

H. H. A., Toronto.

The following are good for the home garden, and would probably succeed at Toronto:—*Raspberries*: Brinckle's Orange, Turner, Cuthbert, Hillborn. *Blackberries*: Agawane, Snyder. *Currants*: Cherry, White Grape, Black Naples. *Cherries*: Early Richmond, Montmorency, Windsor. *Gooseberries*: Pearl, Downing, Whitesmith. *Grapes*: Geneva, Concord, Laidley, Vergennes. *Plums*: Renie, Claude, Bradshaw, Imperial Gage.

* Open Letters. *

The Gentle Bees.

SIR,—I see you have McArthur's advt. What he states is not true: the North American Convention never admitted his bees were the gentlest; his name or his bees were never even mentioned in the convention.

R. F. HOLTERMAN.

Lovett's Best Blackberry.

SIR,—Some one was inquiring about the success of Lovett's Best Blackberry in Ontario. We have grown it three years, and no fruit. It has been killed to the snow line every winter. The \$1,000 Black Cap is too small a berry for us, where we can grow Hillborn and Older to perfection. Success to the CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST,

ALF. BROWN, Pictou, Ont.