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HORTICULTURE

Strawberries Demand Moisture

THE strawberry is about ninety per cent, water. Only on a soil re-tentive to moisture or where the moisture is held by dust or straw mulch, can it be expected that the size will hold up throughout the season. The plant and fruit respond readily to irrigation water, and experiments in-dicate that when water is applied judiciously and at ne time in excess, the yield is markedly increased, and the loss from decay or damaged fruit from damp conditions is practically negligible; but, on the other hand, surplus water must be removed. Drainage is essential. Standing water is weaken-ing to the plants, and when continued destroys them completely.

How to Know Mushrooms By W. W. Robbins

is difficult to lay down any hard and fast rules that can be used to distinguish between edible and sonous mushrooms. In some cases. a species that may be harmless for one individual may cause serious digestive disturbances in another. There is. disturbances in another. There is, however, one group of mushrooms that is deadly and quite poisonous. This is the group of Amanitas. The deadly

Amanitas have white gills, a ring about the stem just beneath the cap, and a cup or scales at the base of the stem.

Do not place any reliance in many popular and traditional tests of poisonous or edible qualities. These tests are entirely worthless. The dis-coloration of a silver spoon, sinking in water, or brilliant coloration are no indications of either poisonous or edi-ble qualities. Furthermore, the notion that poisonous mushrooms can be rendered harmless by boiling in water and then washing thoroughly in cold water is erroneous

One can easily become familiar with few edible kinds of mushro There are many of these springing up in our lawns, door-yards, and along fences. One may feel absolutely safe in using all those mushroom, having in using all those mushroom, having black gills which dissolve with age into an inky mass. These, of course, must be eaten before turning black, but usually several stages of ripening will be found in the same clump ing will be round in the same closury or group of individuals, so that iden-tification can be made. Among these black gill species are the "shargy mane," with a more or less bell-shaped, oreamy-white cap which becomes shaggy, and the "inky-cap," growing shaggy, and the in dense clusters. These two are both common in lawns, gardens, etc., from spring to autumn and are among the

Tie deadly mushrooms are those which possess the following three characters: (1) white gills: (2) a ring on the stem just beneath the cap: and (3) a cup or scales at the base of

Fruit Prospects for 1916

HE Fruit Branch of the Dominion Department of Agriculture has issued its June fruit crop report, giving the prospects for fruit in all parts of the Dominion and in some sections of the United States. Prospects are bright for a full crop, both of trees and small fruits. Apples, of trees and small bruits. Appear, peaches and pears promise exception, ally heavy crops, though a continuation of the wet weather may induce the development of scab, which would result in a heavy June drop. The first Ontario strawberries should be on the market before the middle of June and special efforts are being made to prevent a repetition of the over-facing of berry crates, a considerable amount of which was

evidence last year.

There is a danger that apple grow ers may give up spraying in the be-lief that there is not going to be a good demand for apples. The Depart good demand for apples. The Department, however, is pointing cut that last year and 1914 also, prices for 80. I fruit were quite astisinectory and during the early spring months of this year the demand could not be supplied. There is no demand for in-

ferior fruit.

Safety First

W HEN driving home from the city last market day I arrived at the level crossing just on the edge of the city at the same time as a passing train. The gates were lowered to keep the path clear for the on coming locomorive and I may be waited this question the year, especially wait. Had it, not been for those gates this question that year, especially I might have attempted to get over when there has been a downgour just ahead of the train with acrous results after they have finished sowing a find of the train with across results after they have finished sowing a find a first that the train with across the same and the world was an of the same and the world was a second of the same and the sam train to pass I noticed these words painted on the gates, "Safety First." As I was driving past our own little shipping point I noticed the same words placed prominently on the side of the station house. I suppose the same words are placed prominently along the railway tracks from one end of Canada to the other. I notice

talking about the "Safety First" precautions of the railroads.

I had just finished reading such a magazine article recently and picked up the newspaper when the first thing that struck my eye was the heading "Farmer Gored by a Bull." The note

Other instances came to my mind One of my neighbors was smothered to death when he went down into a silo, although he knew well that had he lowered a lighted lantern into the she have indicated the presence of dangerous gases. A neighbor's boy was carried up on the hay fork last summer and almost killed. A reason-able amount of caution would have prevented this catastrophe also.

How often farm trapodies such as have mentioned are caused by lack of "Safety First" precautions. If there is any one class of men in the country, outside of those engaged in the most dangerous of occupations such as railroading, who should pay heed to the "Safety First" motto it is the farmer, particularly the farmer with a "perfectly quiet bull."

Prof. Zavitz Honored

HE services that have been rendered to Canadian agriculture by Prof. C. A. Zavitz, of the On-Agricultural College through his work in conducting experiments in field crops and originating new superior varieties, has been recognized by the University of Toronto, which conferred upon him the honorary degree of Doctor of Science.

Prof. Zavitz was presented by Dr. C.
C. James, who commented upon the great work he had done and referred to him as one of the recognized plant breeders of the agricultural world

Wayside Gleanings

By W. G. Orvis, Field Repre-sentative, Farm and Dairy.

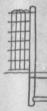
Keeping the Bull

WHILE visiting Nortolk Co., Ont., I had a chat with the proprietor of Cornish Lodge Farm and, of course, the conversation turned to the discussion of dairy cattle. He said that his advice to all breeders would be one advice to all breeders would be to keep the sire at 'feast until his daughters had been proven. I sold my bull 'Vida's Woodland Sarcastle for beet," he said, "and a short time atterward put six of the first of his daughters to freshen under test. They gave me an average record of 418 lbs of milk and 17.9 lbs, butter in seven or mix and 17,9 lbs. butter in seves days. It would have paid me in many ways to have upt this bull and used him, or to h soled him to some other breeder. "9 value of sire is in direct prop don to the milking qualities and type of his offspring."

Shall We Cultivate After Rain. conversation with a man from Central Experimental Farm and asked him concerning the advisibility of
barrowing land, aspecially if it were
liable to bake, providing the grain
had been recently sown. He told me
that the harrowing would not furt the
grain and would break up the soil so
as to prevent baking. This would
check the evaporation of modelura. June 8, 1916. Gate Posts

FE appearan -urrounds greatly im the device illust anying cut. By it on each side of be dispensed with up well, the posts at least three fe holes, a trench is which keeps the from crowding t cured in place. trench is filled up half a dozen strar wire are placed twisted to tighten Before the filli

completed, it is b wire on the post The wire cable ca just sufficient to



plated leaving the below the surface. Testing and Br

to S (Continued

recent test cond made a record of ter in seven days. similarity running four generations, example of the ol

like begets like. A fine bunch of seen in a box sta mark was made owner smiled. my calves at all, experimenti by feeding them We have been a the milk and incr til now they are r This, no d time for them, as better when they to it, but they do well as our calves calves are getting roughage they w whey, and despit satisfaction. we thrifty

An inexpensive one that commend highly, was a boa nailed on it, hangi over each cow's h printed in large name of the cow, t and the full name Mr. Somers said many people keep different animals that I invented t they could read for

A Divers

The main source farm are the cow to 15 are kept, ar the good ones that Besides the milk,

