

richness of soil as *depth*, freedom from excess of moisture, and uniformly good texture and good quality that we desire.—Mixing poor and good soil, in spots, in various parts of the lawn, when grading, will produce a sod which can never be made of uniform color and beauty by any future dressing or manuring. The soil must be of uniform good quality and uniform depth, to make a good lawn.

The treatment of the lawn, the first spring after it is graded, will be as follows:—The first day, after the frost is out of the ground and the soil is sufficiently dry to be worked, let the winter-washed places be repaired, then harrow the whole surface carefully, and if not quite smooth, hand rake the rougher parts, using also the roller if necessary to obtain a fine smooth surface. A little lime, and well-rotted compost may also be applied at this time if required.

The seed should be sown as early as possible, say the 15th of March in this region. Sow on recently harrowed ground, not too rough. The seed needs to be barely covered with earth. It is better, perhaps, after sowing, to cover the seed with a hand rake, using both teeth and back of rake to cover it. Or it may be covered by the back or top of a light harrow drawn over it.

It is not desirable to sow any sort of grain with the seeds for a lawn, nor to sow a great variety of mixed grasses. The best grass-seed is the common green-grass (*Poa pratensis*), [otherwise known as Kentucky blue-grass, June grass, &c].

As soon as the seed germinates, and the grass comes up an inch, on a dry day pass a light roller over it. When the grass is three or four inches high, cut it with a sharp scythe, as close as possible. Mow it with the blade of the scythe *hard on the ground*.—Cut the grass every two weeks during summer in the same manner. A little hay may be obtained by spreading the grass, when cut, very thin, and mowing it once a day, without injury to the lawn. But it is better to mow *often and close*, and remove the grass at once, using it for mulching trees, &c.

Take out dock, dandelion, and other large coarse plants and weeds, with a chisel on the end of a short pole. Pull red clover by hand, but no small weeds will need to be removed by hand if the lawn is mowed often and closely as directed every two weeks. The grass will soon overcome the small weeds.

Mow very close the last thing in the fall, to keep mice from harbouring in the old grass. About the first of November, or later, top-dress the lawn with compost or manure, if necessary, and hand-rake smooth and clean.

Rake the surface of the lawn, in the spring of the second year, and every year thereafter, as hard and close as possible, with an iron rake, to take out the old grass, stones and sticks; and roll when the ground is moderately dry.

Cut the grass early and often the second year, and very close, the same as at first directed.

When the lawn is an extensive one, and well made, a lawn-mowing machine may be used with great advantage, as often as the grass is three or four inches high. If the grass is five or six inches high, the scythe works best. Use the longest bladed scythe that is made.—This gives a more even appearance to the lawn than when a short bladed scythe is used.

The lawn should be so made and so graded, raked and rolled, that the scythe and roller will touch every square inch of the surface. This is of course a point of the first importance.

The great requisites of a good lawn are smooth grading, a good loamy soil of even quality, broken up to a depth of eighteen inches or more, and so porous and well-drained that it will readily part with excess of moisture, and yet of such a character that it will retain a proper degree of humidity to sustain a heavy growth of grass. Well-rotted manure, leaf-mould, clayey loam and clay, of course assist to retain moisture in light soils, and are exceedingly useful additions to most lawns. With the points herein enumerated faithfully attended to, there is no difficulty in obtaining a beautiful and durable lawn.

When the reading of the essay was concluded, a discussion took place in regard to the general subject. Mr. Harrison said he did not approve of mixed seeds for lawns. The great object is to obtain a uniform turf, which is not attained by the use of mixtures. The green-grass (*Poa pratensis*) endures drought better than any other, and the leaf is very fine and of a beautiful rich green tint. Mr. Mitchell had tried the Italian rye-grass; it is handsome but not hardy. Mr. Pollock said his lawn was entirely of Kentucky blue grass or green-grass. It is admitted to be always green, luxuriant and uniform.

CRACKING OF THE APPLE AND PEAR.

The cracking of the apple and the blotches and scarifications frequently observed on its surface have been referred to the attack of fungoid growths or mildew. Various examples have been cited where orchards, sheltered from prevailing winds, have shown a decided exemption from these attacks. In opposition to this supposed cause of immunity it has been asked, Are our orchards more exposed now than they formerly were? As a general rule, we think it quite likely that they are, seeing that in all sections as cultivation increases the forests are gradually thinned and cleared. The effects of destroying the forests of country have already been noted; and we have a partial recognition of the importance of shelter in the precept of many intelligent orchardists who advocate the planting of fruit trees much closer than has formerly been the rule, and also in the practice of encouraging the trees to branch quite to the surface, instead of training to a clear stem five or six feet from the root. Both these expedients have a ten-