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them much closer in the rows for the purpose of making a thick shade over their roots during the dry spells when the berries are growing and ripening, and helping to retain the moisture as long as possible. The rows should not be less than eight feet apart, and set two feet apart in the row, and afterwards allow them to thicken in the row as

tion of the fruit spurs or stems that grow out in the spring for the fruit to form on. Some cut out the old wood as soon as the crop is off, but I do not do so until the next spring, as I think it assists to protect the young canes and to hold the snow and leaves to cover the roots and keep the frost from doing them injury. There is a great difference in the



FIG. 1567.—EARLY HARVEST BLACKBERRIES.

close as convenient to hoe. After the young canes get to a height of two or three feet, they should be pinched back so as to give them a stocky growth, form a fine bushy top and harden the the wood, so that it will stand our severe winters without injury. When spring comes do not cut them back a second time as it will seriously injure the forma-

hardiness of the different varieties ; I have tried several kinds, but the Agawam is only one that would stand our cold winters without injury ; it has more good qualities than any other variety of which I have any knowledge. There is one point in their ripening which is very important, as it has to do with their size and sweetness. Some think they are