

before the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, said that blue grass and white clover were undoubtedly the finest plants for lawns, from the beauty and thickness of the turf which they make, and their delicious fragrance when mown. They are both fond of calcareous soils, and the only way that fondness can be met is by a free use of lime while making the lawn; two hundred bushels per acre would not be an excessive quantity for the soil when it is trenched or subsoiled. At least two bushels of plaster should be used with the annual top-dressing. An objectionable practice, which Col. W. mentions, is that of sowing oats or other grain with the grass seed, which puts the grass back nearly a year, and while the grain is growing it is no ornament. (*Good. A. R. J. F.*)

RASPBERRIES IN CANADA—At a horticultural meeting in Barrie, the members of the Fruit Growers' Association gave statements of their experience with the leading raspberries. A. M. Smith said if he were confined to one red raspberry, he would choose the Cuthbert. For shipping moderate distances to market, the Highland Hardy would probably be as profitable as any, on account of its extreme earliness. The Turner is good for cold regions. The Tyler is valuable among black varieties, and the Gregg, where it happens to succeed well. Mr. Morgan regarded the Cuthbert as by far the best red sort. For black sorts, he said, the Mammoth Cluster is better than Tyler. By growing these three varieties, he has black caps three weeks in succession.

MANURING APPLE ORCHARDS.—Last year, most of the apple orchards through the country bore profuse crops, and prices were consequently low. Many were unsold and unused. This year the supply is scant, and prices fair. Fruit-growers desire to avoid these extremes, and to equalize the supply through each year. If this could be done, we should not have a surplus one season and a dearth the next. Nothing will accomplish this result so well as the use of barn manure. Top-dress the orchard broadcast every autumn; or apply the manure every alternate year. As the present is the barren year in most localities, now is the time for applying the top-dressing, so as to give the trees more vigor next season, to compensate for the exhaustion of the coming heavy crops. Farmers generally do not give their orchards sufficient care and attention, but let them take care of themselves. Even those who have cultivated them while young, and thus given them a good start, often entirely neglect them when they reach good bearing age and are seeded to grass. Then is the time of all others when they are benefited by manure; and if good crops are obtained in the odd year, they will be less liable to overbear in the even years.

CRACKING OF PEARS—Many mistakes are made by drawing fixed conclusions from isolated facts. Some of the papers publish the statement that a cultivator by manuring a Virgalien pear tree, entirely prevented the black scab and cracking. We have watched this disease for thirty years, and have not succeeded yet in finding a remedy. There is no trouble in ascertaining the cause—the parasitic fungus, the same or nearly the same that causes the leaf blight in the pear. We have never seen finer specimens than from trees which had long grown in grass, and never finer ones than on trees under high cultivation. We have trees now standing in grass which are bearing fine specimens, with but little of the black fungus; and the worst are on a tree well enriched with manure. Good cultivation and strong growth are usually more likely to prevent disease than the reverse, but the rule does not always apply to the cracking of the Virgalien. This year, as well as in former years, the fruit on Seckel trees in grass was large, smooth and fair, and that on well-cultivated and manured trees was small and scabby; but the reverse is true on the grounds of a neighbor two miles distant.

It is desirable to report all facts, but a satisfactory conclusion is not yet reached.

CABBAGE WORM.

Is there any remedy that will destroy the green cabbage worm? I have tried every thing that I have read or heard of, so far, without effect. J. R. M. Baltimore, Md. [There are many remedies, most of which, being only partially effectual, are usually regarded as failures. As you do not name those which have not succeeded with you, and which may have failed for want of proper use, we are liable to repeat the same in any which we can recommend. We have never found anything more safe and effectual than hot water, applied with a watering pot to the cabbages after the heads have formed. But it must be applied by the owner, and not by a common hired hand, as the medium between hot enough to kill the insects and not to injure the cabbage, (1) must be nicely secured, and the time the hot showering is continued is to be observed. The outside leaves are usually slightly curled. Before heading, the few worms may be killed by hand. Among the many other remedies, pyrethrum (2) has been successful with a large number of cultivators.]

LUCERN.

Will you kindly tell me when, how and what quantity of lucern to sow—also what season of the year and what soil is best adapted to its wants? R. B. L. Buffalo, N. Y. [Lucern has not often succeeded at the North, but occasionally on deep, rich soils, with a perfect natural drainage, it has done well. If the ground is free from the seeds of weeds, rich and in fine condition, it may be sown broadcast, ten pounds being sufficient for an acre. If the condition of the soil is not so good, and if weeds are likely to intrude, it may be sown in narrow drills, to admit of some after care. At the North it must be sown early in spring, thinly covered or brushed in, if broadcast, and the surface rolled. It is most valuable at the South, where four or five cuttings may be made in a single season, and it also succeeds well in California. It lasts a great number of years, and the roots extend downward several feet. Great depth of pulverization is necessary in preparing the soil for the seed. (3)]

SEEDING FOR GRASS.

T. S. GOLD.

The universal custom in this part of Connecticut (north west) has been to sow grass seed with some grain crop. Little other seed is used, except Timothy and Red Clover. Eight quarts of Timothy and two quarts of clover are a common allowance, though double the amount is sometimes applied. It was common to get a "good catch" until the last few years, so that with the old grass roots about the rocks surviving culture, a new thick turf was readily obtained. The repeated droughts of the last five years, or some other causes, have often destroyed the young plants. Of the spring grains, seeding takes much better with barley and wheat than with oats. The increased amount of seed grain used, making a closer shade, may in part account for failure of the grass. Formerly 2½ bushels of oats were sown to the

(1) Theoretically, 140° F.; but as the water will cool considerably in pouring, I should try 160° F. A. R. J. F.

(2) Pyrethrum is good if it be fresh. A. R. J. F.

(3) Twenty pounds an acre. If sown after 15th May, the lucern may come up, but it will most likely die away. A. R. J. F.