

# SMALL FRUIT CULTURE

BY

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The average farmer's home in Canada is not supplied with an adequate amount of small fruits, notwithstanding the ease with which they can be grown. It is a common thing to see a farmer on market day buying strawberries and other small fruits in the town to be taken home and treated as a luxury, when he should produce in his own garden all that he and his family could consume if they ate fruit three times a day. This state of affairs seems to be accounted for mainly by the fact that the farmer thinks he is too busy a man to have and care for a garden. If the farmers of this country only knew how much better they and their families would be with a plentiful supply of fruit they might make a greater effort than they do to raise enough for home consumption. There are some Canadian farmers, we are glad to say, who do have good gardens of both fruit and vegetables. The garden, which is usually on a well drained piece of land near the home, dries earlier than the fields, and can, therefore, be attended to before work begins in the field. A few hours' labour puts it in such shape that it can be cared for with comparatively little work during the summer.

With the following information to guide him, there is no good reason why every farmer should not have a fruit garden.

## THE STRAWBERRY.

### Strawberry Culture in Canada.

The strawberry is, we believe, the most popular fruit in Canada to-day. It ripens early in the season when every one is craving for fresh fruit, and where it can be readily obtained it is consumed in large quantities and with unabated relish until its season is over and the supply exhausted. The popularity of the strawberry is more general than that of some fruits from the fact that enough berries to supply the family needs may be grown on a very small area of land, hence it is possible for most people to grow strawberries if they desire to do so.

The strawberry is found wild from the Atlantic to the Pacific ocean in Canada, and from the southern boundary as far north as the 64th parallel, and large quantities of the fruits are gathered. The cultivated varieties are grown successfully almost everywhere where the wild species are found, but in some districts require protection