

growth of lateral branches, which alone bear fruit. If this be neglected, he says, one will have splendid vines, but very little fruit; but when this is done seven tons to the acre is a very common yield.

THE INFLUENCE OF POLLEN.

The effect of pollen upon the fruit and seeds of plants is a subject that has frequently engaged the attention of both practical and scientific horticulturists during the past score or two of years. All admit that pollen is an important factor in the production of seed. Furthermore, if there is seed, there must be some other organ present to support it—a fruit-stalk; an envelope to enclose it, as in the apple, pear, cherry, and similar fruits, or something to rest upon as in the strawberry, raspberry, and blackberry. Consequently we must admit that the influence of the pollen does necessarily extend beyond what we term the fruit or even the seed. Quite recently this subject has come up anew, and interesting discussions have followed at several meetings of horticulturists as well as in the columns of various agricultural and horticultural journals. We find the same influence exists in melons, squashes, cucumbers, and similar fruits, and often to such an extent that a choice and high flavoured variety is almost ruined by being planted near an inferior one. A more striking and familiar example of the influence of pollen is that of sweet corn fertilized by the pollen of field corn. If a yellow variety of field corn is planted near any variety of sweet corn, and both come into bloom at the same time, there will be yellow kernels interspersed among the grains of the sweet, and the flavour of these will be as distinct as their color. The influence of the pollen in this case, not only extends to size, color, texture, and flavour, but often

still further, for the coloring matter will usually be seen in the cob. It will be the same with two white varieties, but the effect is more readily observed when one variety is either red or yellow.—A. S. FULLER, of N. J., in *American Agriculturist* for September.

HOW TO MAKE YOUR LAWN.

Where lawns are made by seeding, the work is commenced by turfing. Wherever there is a termination in the grass plat, not otherwise bounded, a strip of turf about a foot wide should be laid down for making a firm edge. Do not remove the soil quite as deep as the sod is thick, as some allowance should be made for compression in beating. When ready to sow the seed, the surface should be passed over with the rake and mellowed up a little on the top. It is a common error to use grass seed too sparingly. Use four or more bushels to the acre. Where it is known that any one sort does well, it is best to sow only that one kind. As a rule Red Top, Bent grass, or Blue grass, are generally preferred. Where it is thought best not to depend on one alone, then several kinds should be mixed. Some always sow a little White Clover with the grass seed, for the greenness it maintains in drouths, but wherever lawns are kept watered this should not be added. In sowing, the seed should be divided into two portions, half to be sown by passing over the land in one direction, and then, after lightly raking over the surface, sowing the remaining half cross-wise. Rake in the seed, or use a brush harrow, and after this let a thorough rolling be given.

As the grass starts up, and the weeds with it, the mower must be kept at work on the new lawn. The weed seed lying in the ground usually comes up quickly, and will prove annoying for a while, but if the grass was sown thickly enough, and the mowing and cut-