

shape and form, and at the time of picking free from the action of worms, defacement of surface and breaking of skin. The Ben Davis, Baldwin, Greenings and other varieties kindred in size, must not be less than two and one-half inches in diameter. The Russet, Jonathan, Spitz and other varieties kindred in size, must not be less than two and one-quarter inches in diameter.

Second grade apples must be hand picked from the tree and not smaller than two and one-quarter inches in diameter. The skin must not be broken or the apple bruised. This grade must be faced and packed with as much care as number one grade.

Third grade apples should never be packed for export.

4. To prepare the barrels. Tighten all hoops, nail them well, and clinch all nails on barrels. Mark on the end of the barrel with a clear stencil, (1) Shipper's name. (2) The shipper's brand. (3) Grade of fruit. (4) Variety of fruit.

5. The barrel should be placed on a solid plank, and continually racked as each basket of apples is placed in the barrel. A piece of timber should be used for this purpose about two inches thick, and of such circumference as will fit nicely in the barrel without leaving too much space; it should be well padded to prevent cutting or bruising the apples.

6. In filling the barrels with different grades of apples, pick out well colored apples of normal shape and standard size, cut off all stems and set or face the heads of the barrel with them, leaving the very largest apples of each grade for the middle of the barrel, so that if a buyer turns out a barrel he will find the best apples in the centre.

7. Fill the barrels so full that the apples are level with the top of the staves, using the same grade of apples for tailing as are used for facing the barrel.

8. Press the apples first with the padded block, so tight that not an apple will move

in the barrel, and then put in the head, nail hoops and securely fasten the heads with strips or liners.

9. Apple barrels when being hauled to the station should never be loaded on end, for in all cases it is bound to slacken the barrels.

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SUMMER PLANTED STRAWBERRIES.—Just as soon as these first runners are nicely rooted, which hereabouts is in July, the new bed may be made. Lift the plants with some little ball of earth attached and set them in the new bed, and with a good watering afterwards the plants will take care of themselves. But when plants are purchased and have no soil with them, much more care in watering and shading is necessary, especially when the planting is in the heat of summer. I do not think much is gained in setting out runners without soil attached at any time but early spring. The chief object of summer or fall planting is to gain a bed for fruiting the next spring, and this cannot be done unless the plants make a good growth after they are planted. Plants removed with a ball of earth attached, or those grown in pots, will produce a fair crop the next season. To get these plants as vigorous as possible is the object desired.

A bed of plants set out in summer and encouraged to grow nicely will give a fair crop of large berries, perhaps not as full a crop as an older bed, but still a very satisfactory one. It may be let alone for another season, but strawberry beds should not be permitted to stand longer than two years. Indeed when plants are set in spring it is quite common to let them bear but the one crop, in the spring following, thus setting a new bed annually. Better results in the way of profits are obtained under this system than under the old one of permitting the beds to remain for several years.—*Gardening.*