

handsome shape and color, and its long keeping qualities consequent upon its hard flesh. Ripe fruits will ordinarily keep a week or ten days in good condition. And, aside from these merits, the tree appears to be as hardy as the common plums. But it blooms early and is often caught by late frosts. Professor Budd recently speaks of it as follows in Iowa: "Fruit large to very large, red in color, and is shaped much like a smooth tomato. Its fault is in the way of too early blossoming. It will pay to grow this fine fruit by laying down in winter, as recommended for the peach. This tree is not fully hardy at Ames without winter protection.

The fruit of *Prunus Simoni* ripens with the early peaches. The fruit often drops before it is fully ripe and it frequently rots on the tree. Although it is apparently less liable to attacks of curculio than peaches and plums, it is not exempt from such injury, as it is often said to be.

Prunus Simoni is a wholly distinct species from any other stone fruit. It is not a hybrid between the plum and apricot, as some have supposed. Botanically it probably belongs to the peach section of the genus *prunus*, although it is more plum than peach in character of fruit and habit of tree.—L. H. BAILEY, *Cornell University Experimental Station.*

PRUNING FRUIT TREES.

No time of the year is more suitable for the pruning of fruit trees than directly after the fall of the leaf. Where summer pruning has been judiciously performed very little will be required to be removed. The summer pruning of apples and pears is intended to obviate the barbarous system of mutilating the trees once a year—viz., in the winter. There are very few gardeners who leave the pruning of fruit trees until late in the winter, because, besides being a very uncomfortable operation then, late pruning has a detrimental effect upon both trees and crops. The pruning of fruit trees, principally apples and pears, consists in removing all portions of the shoots that are not wanted so that the tree may throw its strength into developing the shoots you wish to remain. If the spurs of the tree have been duly pinched in during summer, another growth from each portion that was left has been formed, and it will therefore be necessary to cut the portion left in the summer to within one or two eyes of the preceding year's growth, according to fancy or strength of the respective buds. Gooseberry and black currant shoots should be thinned out when required, and red currants should be spurred. Some cherries require spur-pruning, but the Morello does better on walls if the young shoots are laid on annually and some of the older branches cut short.—Hort. (Eng.) Times.

Too much water while the plants are in too low a temperature is frequently the cause of the buds of fuchsias falling off.