

lar hardy red raspberries need not be denied, but the doubt which we are obliged to recognize on this point rests on circumstantial evidence too strong to be entirely overlooked."

The purple raspberry, of which we have such a notable example in "*Shaffer*," was first designated a distinct species, but recent investigations point to hybrid origin. This assumption appears to be well grounded, owing to the fact that nearly all hybrids between the black and the red raspberry produced here and elsewhere, have borne purple fruit, much resembling the "*Shaffer*" in colour and flavour as well as habit of growth. Prof. Saunders has probably fruited more true hybrids of this class than any other experimenter, the majority of which were intermediate in habit of growth and character of fruit. Their good points are vigour and productiveness; their weak points are the softness and acidity as well as unattractive colour of the fruit.

SOIL.

All varieties of *red raspberries* do not succeed equally well on the same kind of soil. For instance, varieties of foreign extraction (*Rubus idæus*), such as "*Clark*," "*Hornet*" and "*Brinckle's Orange*" do not flourish on sandy or light soils, but are more at home on a deep, rich, moist soil that is rather compact. On light soils their leaves are apt to burn in summer, which prevents the canes from maturing perfectly, and consequently renders them liable to injury by winter. For most varieties of raspberries a cool, loamy soil, moist, but not sodden, will usually give the best results.

The *black raspberry*, on the other hand, seems equally at home on sand or loam, and on well drained clayey soils; but on heavy compact soils which are cold, it does not thrive. Anyone who has attempted to grow black caps in cold and sodden soil will readily appreciate the truth of this statement. In ground of this kind the canes are subject to disease, are easily winter killed and prove generally unprofitable.

SUITABLE PLANTS FOR SETTING OUT.

It is well to remember that the raspberry plant is a perennial in regard to its roots. The canes which are produced this year bear fruit the following summer, and die in the autumn of that year. Thus, although the roots are perennial the canes are biennial only, existing only for two years.

In the case of suckering kinds the best plants are obtained from the vigorous shoots of the previous year's growth. These may be taken up and set out either in the fall or in the spring; or during a rainy season the young sprouts may be transplanted successfully after the middle of June and up to the middle of July.

When fall planting is found convenient, it may be done usually with greatest success during the first half of September. Setting out at this time encourages immediate root growth, which assists in carrying