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#### Some of the Best Raspberries.

At the last meeting of the New Jersey Horticultural Society, William Parry, of Cinnaminson, N. J., submitted a paper concerning raspberries, from which the following is copied:—

The Brandywine raspberry is a large, bright scarlet berry, firm and beautiful; bears carriage well, and commands a ready sale in market. The fruit brought from fifty to sixty cents a quart, wholesale, the past summer. The foliage and general appearance resemble the Pearl, from which it is probably a seedling, though the leaves are of a lighter green colour. If the bushes are put out a week earlier in spring, they will make a much better growth. They are broad and crimped, and when they first appear at the top of the canes are shaded red, which disappears as the leaves attain more size and age. The young stems are generally green while growing, though occasionally a shade of reddish brown next the sun, without the white bloom so abundant on other kinds. The origin is unknown, though it found a congenial soil in Brandywine Hundred and along the Brandywine Creek, near Wilmington, Del., where it succeeded so well as to attract much attention by the price and ready sale of the fruit in market. The berry was formerly called Susqueco, which is the Indian name for Brandywine. It is a valuable raspberry for transporting a long distance to market, though its reputation has suffered improperly by reason of Bristol and other inferior raspberry plants being sold for Brandywines.

The Bristol is a native variety found growing near Bristol, in Pennsylvania, from which its name is taken. The plants have narrow, pointed leaves, and a whitish bloom on the stems. This is a strong, hardy, vigorous grower, and produces a superabundance of young canes or suckers, which must be ploughed under or disposed of in some way, if fruit is the object, as the young suckers come up so thickly, if permitted to grow unchecked, that they will injure the crop of fruit. The berry is medium size, not so large and firm as the Brandywine, though large quantities of Bristols have been sold as Brandywines.

The Delaware is a new seedling recently raised from the Hornet, combining the large size, firm flesh, and luscious qualities of its parent, with canes perfectly hardy without protection. The fruit is large and pointed. In colour and shape it is similar to the Hudson River Antwerp. The cross diameter is the same as the Herstine,  $\frac{2}{3}$  of an inch; the length is greater, being  $\frac{27}{32}$  of an inch. It commands the highest price in the market.

The Pearl is a bright red, medium size, handsome, firm berry; bush dwarfish; a slow grower, with thick, tough foliage. Needs good strong land and high cultivation in order to produce even medium crops of fruit.

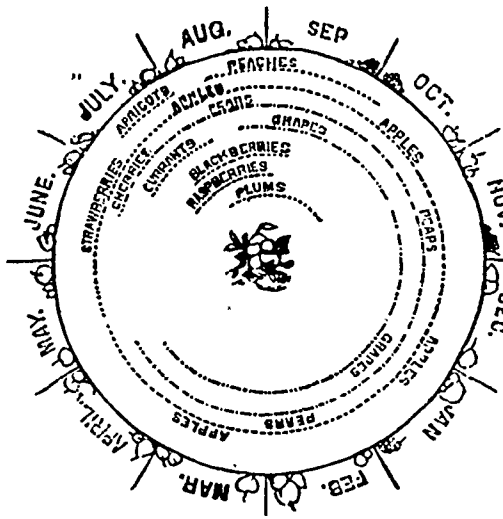
#### Shaping the Tops of Trees.

Mr. Smith, the veteran nurseryman who has kept up with the progress of the times in matters pertaining to fruit tree management, but repeats an old and yet an ever new and interesting fact, when he speaks of the almost intelligent nature of fruit trees, and the readiness with which they conform to the training and wishes of the skilful and intelligent cultivator. It is interesting to see a man who knows all about the matter, go up to a tree, take hold of its branches, tell what ought to be done with it, what limbs taken out, what branches spread apart, just how to shape the cut, just how to saw a limb—that the sun may enter the whole top and the tree become a truer and better tree. These things are a part of necessary care and management, are as important as manuring or grafting, and have as much to do with the yield of fruit as fighting caterpillars or digging for borers. It is true they are apt to be neglected, or their importance overlooked—but the judicious cultivator attends to these things and makes them tributary to his success and his profits. Trees may be changed, moulded at will, and become just such things as the master would have them. How necessary then, that the master should be intelligent, and know just what he wants his trees to be. —*Maine Farmer.*

#### Fresh Fruit all the Year.

We find, says the *Country Gentleman*, that few cultivators, even among those who give considerable attention to raising good fruit, succeed in securing a good supply through the whole twelve months. Yet the task is not at

all difficult. It requires indeed some knowledge and care. The sorts which give this supply, at the North, and the times of the year when they are at hand, are distinctly shown in the accompanying diagram. The most abundant supply is of course during the last half of summer and through autumn. The small fruits in the shape of strawberries, begin in June. The earliest cherries are but a few days behind them. A few weeks later, or about the middle of July as far north as New York, we have early apples, followed closely by the earliest pears and apricots, and the earliest plums. Peaches of such sorts as Hale's Early are on hand by the middle of August, and we shall expect the Amsden and Alexander to ripen here about the first of August. After that, the great throng of summer and autumn apples, pears, grapes, &c., furnish an abundance till winter; and certain varieties of these three kinds are had without difficulty till midwinter. The latest pears, easily raised and easily ripened, are Alençon and Josephine de Malines, which, with common care, keep into February; and with special arrangements, till early spring. The few who know how to raise and ripen the Easter Beurre, may have good pears in April. But as a general rule, and for ordinary management, we must depend mainly on winter apples after February. In a cellar properly constructed to secure coolness, and with care in



assorting and placing aside such specimens as well as such sorts as show long keeping, there is no difficulty in having plenty till the middle of June, when strawberries are ripe. We speak from experience, and have tried it successfully for years.

All this is worth much more than cost, and a daily supply of fresh fruit for the table and for cooking is not only a matter of economy, but promotes health, and is a cheap luxury.

#### Growing and Marketing Horseradish.

The horseradish, writes a Maine Farmer correspondent, is very easily and profitably raised, and there is no doubt but it is a wholesome article of diet.

Although horseradish, in its natural state, is generally found in low places, it is found best to grow it in deep rich loam. When planted in low land there are many laterals, but when planted in deep soil it sends its roots down in search of water, and as the root is the only part valuable, the object of the cultivator should be to produce as perfect roots as possible.

The land should be liberally manured with say forty-five loads of stable manure, well ploughed in. Or if more convenient, bone dust may be profitably employed. The land should be deeply ploughed, using the *lifting sub-soil plough*, and thoroughly harrowed and marked off into rows thirty inches apart.

The sets should be planted so soon as the ground is sufficiently dry. Take a small crow-bar and along the rows that have been previously marked out thirty inches apart, make holes, say ten inches deep and fifteen inches apart. This will allow four or five inches over the sets. This will allow the free use of the harrow when the leaves are first seen. This harrowing destroys the first crop of weeds, so that generally one hoeing is all the after-cultivation required. Use the harrow fearlessly; it cannot do harm.

It should be gathered the fall after planting. This perhaps is the most difficult work to be performed. To facilitate it a deep furrow may be ploughed among each row

but the main dependence must be in the spade. The roots should be taken out as completely as possible, for if roots are left, they will sprout out the following year and cause trouble, unless to those crops requiring repeated hoeings.

As the principal demand for it is in the winter, it may be necessary to store it. They may be secured in pits or placed in a cool cellar, and well covered with sand.

As it may be required for market, the quantity required should be taken from the pile in the cellar (be sure to cover what is left with sand) and the crowns nicely thinned, and all lateral roots removed, except the larger ones, which may be shortened, but left attached to the main root; the roots should now be cleanly washed, and allowed to drain and dry, if packed in boxes, or they may be placed in barrels with holes bored in them to allow the water to drain away.

The laterals cut away in "trimming" for market may be kept for sets the following year. They should be stowed in a cool cellar with an abundance of sand mixed through them and covering them completely.

Horseradish may also be profitably grown in common with other crops, say early cabbage or radishes. In this case the rows should be marked out fifteen inches apart, and every other row planted with cabbage. The sets should be placed pretty deep, say six inches below the surface. This allows the cabbage to get a good start, but should the horseradish come up too soon, the leaves may be cut off with the hoe without in the least injuring the roots.

If the above directions are followed, horseradish can be grown easily and profitably.

MAPLE SEED.—Occasionally, says an exchange, an inquiry comes to us about gathering tree seed, and the appearance of the maples remind us that the seeds of the silver maple and the red maple ripen in two or three weeks after the leaves are fully developed. They should be gathered without delay, and sown soon after being collected. With care in sowing and proper attention thereafter, these varieties may be easily grown. Plant in drills, to the depth of about an inch, the rows being wide enough apart to permit of cultivation with a harrow or plough. If the ground is dry, roll it after planting. The young plants will make their appearance in from a week to ten days, and if the weather is very hot, they must be protected with a light covering of straw or by shading the rows with bushes or branches of trees.

RABBIT-GNAWING.—A correspondent writes to the *Fruit Recorder*. In the spring of 1874, before sap started, rabbits gnawed the bark off one of my dwarf Bartlett pears, standing in my yard. The tree was so completely denuded of bark all around, that I thought it "hopelessly done for." I spaded a mound of fresh earth around it several inches above the wound, and left it in that condition to die—not knowing any remedy that would preserve it. But it came out fresh in spring with the other trees, and kept perfectly green all summer. I did not remove the dirt until the next fall, when to my astonishment there was a complete connection of bark the wound was healed, and it is now as healthy as any tree I have. In spring of 1875, the rabbits gnawed a young apple tree in the same way, only more so, taking the bark off for six inches or more all around. I threw a mound of earth around it and left it as I did the pear, until last fall, when, on removing the dirt, it had also healed over and made new bark. Now sir, I would like some scientist to explain. The bark, while forming, I noticed, rose up in bumps like rough excrescences, about in places on the hard wood, and finally united and became confluent or solid perfect bark. I am going to experiment further, and test it more fully; though there is no doubt about these instances, and particularly the last, where they healed and formed the new bark.

THE FLAGS.—Lovers of hardy flowers—that class "requiring no attention" cannot select a genus combining greater variety of tint and marking than the Iris. We couldn't undertake here to give a lengthy description of "the finest kinds," even if we knew where to begin, and, what would be more difficult, where to leave off. They are all handsome, with very few exceptions all hardy, remove and divide easily, bloom profusely, and are not at all fastidious about character of soil or situation. In forming, however, even a small collection, one should not think of omitting our two native species usually found in most of the Middle States, the *I. Virginica* and *I. Versicolor*. Although natives of low, damp situations, they thrive just as well in dry soil, and produce an abundance of their delicate blue flowers in June. Who does not remember with pleasure the old-fashioned blue flag of gardens, now unfortunately but seldom seen? Its great flaunting deep indigo blue flowers are among the first to present themselves to memory as we recall many a straight bed bordering the walk from gate to doorstep. This neglected species has served another excellent purpose, it being the parent of the large portion of the many splendid varieties that grace the flower beds of European cottages, and we wish we could add of American likewise. Cultural hints for this family are few, as they are so perfectly able to care for themselves. They look well massed in a bed, or scattered through a group of shrubbery, or even with other perennial plants. Although succeeding best in the full light of day, they thrive in moderate shade, and possibly retain their flower a little longer when protected from direct rays of the sun. —*New York Tribune.*