

THE QUINCE.



CONSIDERING the ready sale there is for the fruit of the quince, it is a wonder that there is not more effort made to understand the nature of this bush. The numerous complaints of inability to get satisfaction from trees set out, show that their needs are not understood. Only lately a neighbor, a farmer, was speaking to me of the unprofitable apple trees he had. I casually observed that I supposed paid attention to getting borers out of the stems every year, and he to my surprise he answered that he had never done so, but had left the trees to their chances. Of course, it did no good to tell this man that the trees had evidently taken chances against him. It was too late to remedy the evil, for I found on visiting his place later that the high wind had broken off some of his trees where the borers had weakened them. This neighbor does not take any other agricultural periodical, but he has an almanac, and I found he had lots to say about "planting in the signs." It was a complaint he made to me about his ill-luck with quinces that brought to my mind how common it is to hear others say the same thing. And this, too, in the face of the fact that this bush will flourish almost anywhere where the ground is rich. I have seen quinces on high ground, and in low ground, and growing well in both places when well fed. If the choice offered I would take a rather low situation in preference to a high one, because of the chances of deeper soil. What it demands and will not thrive without, is richness of soil and coolness about the roots. Instead of allowing weeds to grow and cultivating to get rid of them, it is far better to spread a thick mulch of straw or manure about them. This keeps weeds down, keeps roots cool and enriches the ground, all to the great advantage of the trees. When so treated I have known quinces to thrive and bear regular crops for years. When in good soil and situation there is no more regular bearing fruit than the quince. When about to plant one of them, see that it is quite free from borers. Then, in June and September every year, see that no borers have made a lodgment. Do not let the bush run to top, but prune it every winter, in such a way that there will always be some new shoots, and some of them spring from near the ground. When the soil is not over rich, liquid manure is a good thing for them, preserving the foliage green and fresh until the latest days in fall. In regard to variety, the Orange is the most satisfactory of all.—Practical Farmer.

Cabbage Salad—Chop a firm white cabbage with a sharp knife. A dull one bruises it. Make a dressing of two tablespoonfuls of oil, six of vinegar, a teaspoonful each of salt and sugar, half as much each of made mustard and pepper. Work all in well, the vinegar going in last, and then beat in a raw egg, whipped light. Pour over the salad, toss up with a fork, and serve in a glass dish.