

in order of ripening, is as follows: Bradshaw or Niagara, Duanne's Purple, Imperial Gage, Washington, Smith's Orleans, Huling's Superb, McLaughlin, Lombard, Pond's Seedling, Glass's Seedling, Quackenbos, Yellow Egg, German Prune and Reine Claude de Bavary. The above are for clay or clay loam, and all are good growers and good bearers. For a sandy soil, which is not recommended as the best for plums, I would suggest: Duanne's Purple, Imperial Gage, Washington, Huling's Superb, McLaughlin, Lombard, Glass's Seedling, Reine Claude de Bavary and Coe's Golden Drop. In addition to the above are many more worth trying for those who care to experiment with varieties, such as Canada Blue, Peter's Yellow Gage, Genii, Jefferson, Fellemburg, Shipper's Pride, Shropshire Damson, Grand Duke, Saratoga, Field, Victoria, Gen. Hand, Prince of Wales, Red Egg, Lawson's Golden Gage, Prince's Yellow Gage, Bingham, St. Lawrence, Munroe Egg, Canada, Orleans, Prune de Agen and Abundance.

THE USE OF FERTILIZERS.

If the soil is not naturally rich it is of the greatest importance that some fertilizer should be applied. Barnyard manure, on account of the nitrogen it contains, is probably the best, but ashes and bone meal are generally required when the orchard is in full bearing condition, and these may each be applied at the rate of about 200 pounds an acre. Some soils, such as clays of a greasy nature, are full of potash, and consequently require only nitrogen and phosphate (or bone), and to use ashes on such land would be simply throwing them away. But in the case of sandy or loamy soils, where there is plenty of sorrel growing, the opposite is the case, and the ashes should be applied to sweeten it. Plum trees have been known to bear well under neglect, but that was where the new soil was rich and there was no black-knot or curculio to attack them. Now all this is changed, and if you want a long lived, profitable orchard, do not neglect to give the best of care in cultivation and fertilizing, or otherwise black-knot, bark sun-scald and death will finish them.

BLACK-KNOT.

I had so much black-knot a few years ago that I thought I was going to lose my orchard. However, I commenced cutting off the knot and burning it. Three times a year—in July, September and February or March—we went through the orchard, and also fertilized it well with nitrogen, phosphoric acid and potash. Trees revived where nearly dead, and at the present time I have but few cases of black-knot, and they are hard to find.