

only be recommended where a few trees for the home garden are concerned, and where expense and time are not so important as the early bearing of the trees.

GRADES OF ONE-YEAR-OLD STOCK AND THEIR PROPAGATION.

Nursery stock (large fruits) is graded and sold according to the standard height of the trees for the particular variety. Trees are either propagated by grafting or budding.

ONE-YEAR-OLD GRAFTED STOCK.

The seedlings for grafting are dug in the fall, grafted during the winter, and set out in the spring. These grafts after one season's growth are sold as one-year-old grafts, and consist of a one-year-old top on two-year-old roots. The tops of these trees are generally unbranched.

ONE-YEAR-OLD BUDDED STOCK.

The seedlings for budding are either left in the nursery row all winter, or are dug up in the fall and stored and set out in the spring. These are budded during July or August. The buds do not make any growth the same season as budded, but remain dormant until spring, when the tops of the trees are cut off just above the inserted bud. After one season's growth from this bud, the stock is sold as one-year-old budded stock, and consists of a one-year-old top on a three-year-old root. These trees are stronger than the one-year-old grafts, and are generally more or less branched. Nearly all our stone-fruits and a great many of our apples and pears are propagated in this manner.

CUT-BACK GRAFTS.

There is still another class of tree which is sold by nurserymen, and which is known as the one-year-old cut-back graft. This stock is obtained by cutting back the one-year-old graft in the spring to the lowest bud on the previous season's growth, and then allowing this tree to grow another season in the nursery row. At the end of the season the stock is sold as one-year-old cut-back stock, and consists of a one-year-old top on a three-year-old root system. These cut-back grafts are similar to the budded tree, except that they have a greater development of side branches, which is a great advantage in forming the head of the tree. This factor will be more fully dealt with under pruning the tree at the time of planting.

BUDDED VERSUS GRAFTED TREES.

There is a difference of opinion as to which is the better to plant, the grafted or budded tree. Possibly the grafted tree is a little more hardy than the budded tree, because the seedling part of the grafted tree is buried in the ground. It is a noticeable fact that in the nurseries the seedling trees will be killed down during a hard winter, while the propagated stock in the same nursery will be uninjured, thus showing that the wood of many seedling trees is more tender than that of the propagated varieties. With this fact in view, the grafted tree should prove more successful in the colder sections of the Province. In general, however, there is little to choose between the two for planting in the average district.

Victoria, B.C., December, 1912.