

Now, for the purpose of helping avoid this evil and maintaining a better degree of moisture at the roots, during a period of severe weather when strong fires have to be kept up to maintain the required temperature, it is a good plan to cover the surface of the pots, or if growing in shallow benches, the surface of the bed, with moss, which may either be the green moss found growing on stumps and stones in moist parts of woods, or sphagnum moss found in swamps; this latter is the kind I generally use, but the other is the prettiest for house plants. Peter Henderson recommends mixing bone dust with the moss as a fertilizer to the plants. For plants somewhat exhausted from being a good while in pots, this is very desirable, and for the last year during which I have adopted this plan, I found it very beneficial for recuperating plants which make feeble growths from being long in pots. The moss, from its moistness, brings the roots to the surface, and if food is supplied them, a fresh and vigorous growth is the consequence.

Instead of mixing the bone dust with the moss, I often mix it with a little soil, and sprinkle it on the surface of the pots before putting on the moss. This is the better way with house plants, as it keeps the bone covered, and therefore prevents any disagreeable smell from arising. Fertilizing house plants has generally been a difficult matter with window gardeners, but the above method overcomes most every objection formerly met with, and will be found as beneficial as any method generally recommended.

All my bouvardias, heliotropes, roses, and other plants growing in pots for winter flowering, I had covered shortly after placing them in their winter quarters—the result being more flower, larger trusses and buds, and I think better colored, than when grown without any covering on the surface.

—M. Milton, in *Country Gentleman*.

THE MANUFACTURE AND USES OF GRAPE SUGAR.

We clip the following article from the *Breeder's Live Stock Journal*, and ask, if the manufacture of glucose or grape sugar is so profitable, what is there that prevents its manufacture in Ontario, to the benefit of the producer of the corn and the consumer of the sugar, and the establishment of another home industry. The manufactory that consumes two thousand bushels of corn per day, or about six hundred thousand bushels a year, would help to steady the price of corn. The article is as follows:—

Not long since Mr. John L. Alberger, of Buffalo, N. Y., one of the original inventors of the process of making glucose and grape sugar, brought suit for \$450,000 against the Buffalo Grape Sugar Co. Mr. Horace Williams who, it is claimed, understands the question thoroughly, testifies as follows in that suit: