

HORTICULTURE

Fruit Crop Report

(Continued from last week.)

Peach leaf curl is quite prevalent this year on unsprayed trees, but is hardly noticeable where the peach orchards were sprayed with lime and sulphur.

Black knot is very prevalent on the plum and cherry. Cuscuting out a few inches below the knotted and burning the affected branches is the only remedy. Spray uninfected trees with Bordeaux as a preventive.

FOREIGN PROSPECTS.

The season has been very backward in Great Britain on account of late, cold winds. Reports received in the middle of the month indicated a prospect for more than an average yield of all fruits in England with the exception of plums, which by blooming very light. Later reports of several very May frosts have been received which may alter the prospects.

The first early estimate of the conditions on the continent is favorable for a good fruit crop. In Belgium and Holland the trees are reported looking better than they have for a number of years.

Canada's Fruit Exports

Report of Acting Trade Commissioner, Leeds, England.

It is generally admitted that last season Canada did not by any means send the quantity of apples to the British market that the importers were at one time led to expect, with the result that prices all round were above the average. Indeed, as it eventually turned out, the crops not only in the Dominion, but in the United States and Europe generally, were estimated to be 50 per cent. smaller than in the previous year.

The chief reason for this was attributed to the hot weather and drought experienced in September, which had the effect of maturing the fruit too quickly, with the result that a considerable quantity dropped off the trees. What remained the growers found was not keeping nearly so well as usual, and they were compelled to put them on the market at an earlier date.

MEANS INCREASED SALES.

During the past few seasons there have been distinct signs that the exporters of fruit to the British markets are awakening more than ever to the fact that improved quality and packing plays an important part in sales, and, in this connection, a great advance has been made, especially in fruit received from the Australian states. One authority writing on this subject says: "Purveyors in fruit in these days have to exhibit something which takes the eye. The Italians say that the people in England 'eat with their eyes,' and, although not literally true, there is a good deal in it."

Continental shippers have done their best to improve the quality of

the products they raise and Canadian growers are naturally animated with a similar desire. That their efforts have been attended with success is evident, and there is every prospect of greatly-increased consumption of imported fruits in England, chiefly because packers are paying more attention to the requirements of the actual consumer.

Slugs and Millipedes

What is the best method of controlling the slugs and millipedes that injure garden produce?—A. F. STONE.

Little damage is done by slugs if poultry are allowed the run of the garden, as they are drab to morsels to the ordinary fowl. Frogs too, are very fond of slugs, and should be protected for their many kind offices to the garden.

There are, however, many other ways of dealing with slugs. If quicklime ground tobacco or salt is dusted about the vegetables after dusk when the slugs emerge from their hiding quarters in the day-time, especially in rainy weather, many of them will be killed. The use of poisoned bran-mash, also effective against cutworms, is also a protection from slugs. This is made by mixing thoroughly half a pound of Paris green with 50 pounds of bran, and sweetening the mixture with molasses. Sufficient water should be added to give a firmness to the handfuls of baits distributed about the plants in the rows. Slugs sometimes climb apple trees to eat holes in the fruit, but they can be readily checked by the use of the poisoned bran-mash, or by burlap placed about the trunks.

Millipedes often do much damage to the roots of plants. They also eat the roots of potatoes, strawberries and other plants. In some soils they are extremely abundant, and under such conditions it is almost impossible to grow new plants. A good plan is to mix thoroughly with the soil some tobacco dust or gas lime, to give the soil a good soaking with kerosene emulsion, or to give two or three light dressings of nitrate of soda. As millipedes usually move about at night, they can be trapped by leaving slices of mangel, potato, etc., lying about. They can be collected in the morning and destroyed. The value of poisoned-baits in their case has not yet been clearly shown.

Millipedes or myriapods are often mis-called blackworms or wireworms, but the latter are the young of click-beetles and have only three pairs of legs. The millipedes have many legs, often several hundred.—Prof. W. Lockhead, Macdonald College, Que.

Potato Spraying is Profitable

The potato spraying experiments of the New York State Experiment Station (Geneva), for 1907 and 1908 are summarized in a single "popular bulletin," No. 307-311. These two years were almost dry, and the blight was almost wholly absent one year, and little in evidence the other; yet spraying was profitable both years, in the experiments at the Station, in business experiments in which farmers co-operated with the Station and in volunteer experiments reported by other potato growers.

The Station tests have now been continued seven years, with an average gain, at Geneva, of 110 bushels to the acre from spraying every two weeks and of 84 bushels from spraying three times during the season. On Long Island the gains were 54 and 29½ bushels respectively. Six years of farmers' business experiments, covering almost a thousand acres have given an average gain of 43.8 bushels to the acre, and an average net profit of \$17.94 an acre.

On 1700 acres sprayed during five years by farmers who have reported their results to the Station, the aver-

age gain has been 59½ bushels to the acre. Such results certainly prove spraying potatoes a most profitable practice.

Ask Council for Grant

A deputation of fruit growers from Durham and Northumberland counties waited on the United Counties Council last week and asked that a grant of \$100 be made to assist in preparing a creditable exhibit of fruit for the Ontario Horticultural Exhibition, to be held in Toronto this coming fall. Among others, Messrs. Gibson, and Capt. Dudley, of Newcastle, Mr. Fred Hoar, Mr. Westington, Mr. Reddy, and Mr. Geo. A. Stevens, made up the deputation.

It was pointed out to the Council that fruit growing was one of the greatest industries of the United Counties of Durham and Northumberland. The exhibit made last year by Norfolk County had put many other counties, that could grow better apples, much in the back ground. One of the members of the deputation pointed out that from the exhibits made at the Fair last year, a visitor would get the impression that Norfolk was the only place that apples could grow. When it is known that Durham and Northumberland produce the best apples that can be grown, some effort should be made to have an exhibit worthy of the Counties at this exhibition, in order that the fruit industry of this part of Ontario might be advertised and kept before the public as it should. Warden A. A. Powers promised the deputation the favorable consideration of the Council.

P. J. Carey, fruit inspector, has just returned from Norfolk County, where he has found prospects good. He reports that James Johnston of that place made \$2,500 last year from 30 acres of strawberries.



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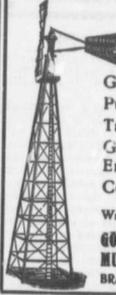
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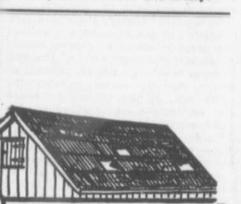
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Dominion Entomologist.—The position of entomologist and botanist of the Canadian Government, filled until recently by the late Dr. Jas. Fletcher, has been divided. Prof. Chas. G. Hewitt of Owens College, Manchester, Eng., will be the entomologist. The position of botanist will probably be filled by the appointment of Hans Gusow, of Breslau, Germany, who has been offered the position. For six years past, he has been employed in botanical work by the Royal Agricultural Society, of England. Professor Hewitt is expected to arrive in September.

Apples and pears promise half a crop; cherries, three-quarters; peaches and plums one-third.—J. McMillan, Welland Co., Ont.

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POULTRY
Yarding
Prof. F. C. A.

The size of the depends upon future prospect larger than the data the thrive if crop poultry plants and sheds huts, far too They are very to clean. The grower their uses but are the poultry.

If such building half of them to fixed over so for the purpose would be more than would be better less trouble in revenue would

ENCLOSURE
It is an advantage to have a small poultry yard where it can be not where to run in the barn can have, at times, fenced a and grain. The permanent plan, put outside temptation to the wards to the put up a good and have as feasible.

As a rule, one sufficient for a very little call are found on such plants. One such same bred will the large yard into several small accompanying phry plant in Ontario to accommodate the yards are and wire. They every 25 or 30 h for every 50 or more might suit 10 different broods were kept I w the internal fence hen would then liberty, and the be lessened matter

PERMANENT
A good plan is and which is to have two yards of the house. They be allowed into while the second crop. The next take the other yard Graham and satisfaction of crops. There would be becoming foul, often the case of the yards, which should have plenty shade.

A good poultry or the colony on up later.

Details of Satisfaction

H. B. Webster, Until a year ago was kept in a barn the damp and crop few eggs were March 1st. My poultry was winter eggs were some suitable building. Consequently