

LAYING DOWN PEACH AND PLUM TREES.

I HAVE just read the notes on growing plums in the cold regions by laying down for winter protection, and wish to say that the East European method is much better than that practised by Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Sharp.

When young and easy bent down, attention is given to making the most possible growth upward by trimming up the stem. When the trees have attained a height of stem of from four to five feet, the stem is *laid down permanently*. The next spring the top is bent upward and kept perpendicular by tying to a stake. The next fall, and continuously thereafter, the laying down is done by cutting loose from the stake and bending over to one side. The spring in the four or five feet of prostrate stem will permit even a small boy to lay over the top and pin it down for covering with earth or litter. In parts of Iowa we are now growing the tenderest and best peaches and plums in this way.

The only care needed is to keep the prostrate stem from rooting. If it becomes rooted, the top becomes much stiffer and difficult to get down without injury. The rough sketch will show the prostrate stem and top attached to stake.

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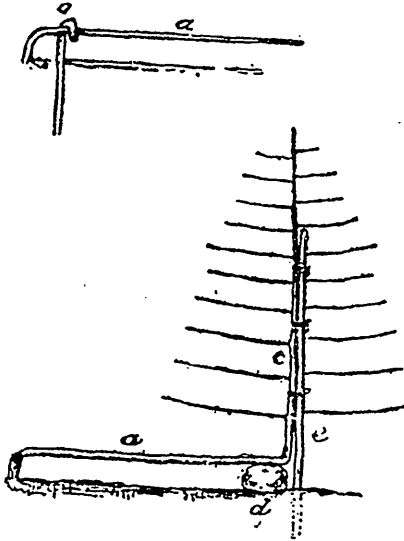


FIG. 55.

PEACH YELLOWS.

THERE has been for a long time an opinion held by some prominent Massachusetts fruit growers that peach yellows were curable, and now comes the eighth bulletin of the experiment station of the Massachusetts Agricultural College, bearing testimony in the same direction. It seems that experiments have been made since 1875 by Prof. Goessman and by Prof. Maynard, the latter of whom is the writer of this bulletin, and as a result both these gentlemen are convinced that the disease is curable. The yellows is claimed to be the result of such causes as lack of proper food supply, injury by cold, injury by borers, injuries by accident, etc. Out