RASPBERRIES.

Rubus leucodermis, which is common on Vancouver Island, and has been collected as far east as the Columbia River Valley, 100 miles south of Revelstoke.

In the east R. strigosus and R. occidentalis hybridize and form a species (?) named by Prof. Peck, R. neglectus. In the west R. strigosus and R. leucodermis form a hybrid which is far superior to R. neglectus. This form grows in abundance at Sicamous, B. C., close to the C. P. R. station, where it was found fruiting finely in July, 1889." Rubus leucodermis in its native state appears quite promising, but as yet has furnished no variety adapted to general cultivation.

"The first distinct variety of black cap (*Rubus occidentalis*) of which we have record, is the Ohio Everbearing, which attracted attention as early as 1832, from its habit of fruiting to a greater or less extent upon the young canes in autumn. For a family garden this was considered to be a desirable feature, though no varieties of this class ever found favour for market purposes. The yellow form of the black cap, represented by Golden Cap and other varieties, was introduced about the same time. The Doolittle next came into notice, about 1850, and attained considerable prominence." (Crozier).

In some districts of the United States black raspberries are extensively cultivated for drying, the "Ohio" being one of the favourite varieties grown for this purpose.

Our native red raspberry has a wider range than the black cap, extending especially much farther northward. Prof. Macoun also furnishes me with the following particulars regarding the distribution of this species :—"*Rubus strigosus* has a very wide range in Canada, passing without a break to the Coast Range in British Columbia. Mr. Low found it in Labrador on the height of land at the source of the Ungava River, down which it descends to Lat. 57°. Mr. J. B. Tyrrell brought back specimens from the "Barren Grounds" gathered in Lat. 62° 17′, Long. 103° 07′ West. Miss E. Taylor collected it in the delta of the Mackenzie River, on Peel's River, 30 miles north of the Arctic circle, and lastly Mr. James McEvoy gathered abundance of ripe fruit on the Yukon, north of Lat. 62°. I have gathered specimens in the mountains at an altitude of 7,000 feet. It will be seen by the above that it has a very wide rahge."

Mr. Crozier further states that "This species does not take so kindly to cultivation (as the black cap), and the origin of our varieties belonging to it is often obscure; we have but few well authenticated examples of the species in its purity having been brought from the wild state into cultivation, and most of these soon disappear. The evidence by which certain of our well known red varieties are assigned by botanists (doubtless correctly) to the native species is mainly structural, and not historical, since nearly all have originated, directly or by descent, as chance or artificial seedlings upon cultivated ground. That our native red raspberry has played a large and perhaps controlling part in the production of our most popular ha oblige strong T

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