

## CAUSE OF UNFRUITFULNESS OF SOME PEAR TREES.

Attention was called last year to the fact that some varieties of both pear and apple, when planted alone in large number, thus forming a solid block of the one variety, were under such conditions unfruitful. See CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST, Vol. XVI. page 236. Mr. M. B. Waite has been continuing his experiments, and has published in Bulletin No. 5, of the Division of Vegetable Pathology, U. S. Department of Agriculture, a full account of the results obtained. From this we learn that the following varieties are self-sterile, viz. :—Anjou, Bartlett, Boussock, Clairegeau, Clapp's Favorite, Columbia, De la Chêne, Doyenne Sieulle, Easter Beurre, Gansel's Bergamot, Gray Doyenne, Howell, Jones, Lawrence, Louise Bonne, Mount Vernon, Pound, Sheldon, Souvenir du Congress, Superfin, Wilder (Colonel), Winter Nelis.

And that the following are self-fertile, viz. :—Angouleme, Bosc, Brockworth, Buffam, Diel, Doyenne d'Alençon, Flemish Beauty, Heathcote, Kieffer, Le Conte, Manning's Elizabeth, Seckel, Tyson, White Doyenne.

We further learn that the pollen of self-sterile varieties may be quite capable of fertilizing another variety ; for example, pollen of Anjou though incapable of fertilizing Anjou flowers (not only those of its own tree, but also those of any other Anjou tree), is quite capable of fertilizing the flowers of Bartlett, or of any other variety of pear ; and so of all others of the self-sterile sorts. Also that the seeds of self-fertile varieties when fecundated only by their own pollen are usually abortive, and that the fruits differ in size and shape, and sometimes in flavor and time of ripening from those produced by cross-fertilization.

Mr. Waite therefore advises to avoid planting solid blocks of one variety, and where such already exist and have proved unfruitful, to graft among them sufficient trees with some other variety to supply the needed pollen. Also to have a good supply of bees in the neighborhood to help cross-fertilization.

*Toronto, Ont.*

D. W. BEADLE.

**The Consumption of Fruit** by my customers is double what it was when they bought from the store. I hire a boy at 75c. a day to deliver my berries daily. When I first started in peddling, one family would not buy any berries. The gentleman always said, "We do not like berries." I could not understand why, and resolved to test them. I stopped one afternoon and handed him a box of berries, saying, "I wish you would have these served for supper and give me your opinion of them. They are said to be superior by some and I am anxious to get an opinion from one who is not fond of fruit." The next trip the whole family was at the gate waiting for me. You would not mistrust that the variety was Crescent if you had heard the praise. They did not know before what a dead ripe, fresh berry really was. From that little venture I sold them that season four bushels of berries for table use.—Farm and Home.