

Varieties to use—

White Currants—Large White, White Grape and White Cherry.

Red Currants—Red Cross, Cumberland Red, Victoria, Rankin Red, Red Dutch, Red Grape, Cherry, Wilder, Greenfield Red, Ruby Castle, London Market.

Black Currants—Magnus, Buddenborg, Kerry, Saunders, Eclipse, Collins Prolific, Topsy, Climax, Naples, Crandall.

GOOSEBERRIES.

The gooseberry, picked green, is a very popular fruit for sauce, pies and for canning. In its ripe state it is often used for making jams. As a consequence it is receiving more attention every year, and it is certainly entitled to a prominent place in the farmer's small-fruit orchard. Our cultivated varieties are derived from the native species (*Ribes oxycanthoides*) and from European varieties (i.e., *Ribes grosularia*). The European strains are more prolific but are not so resistant to some diseases as the hardy white sorts. Gooseberries require the same treatment as currants, with the following modifications:—

Propagation.—In addition to the method of propagating by cuttings, a good way with gooseberries is to prune severely in the fall the bushes intended for this purpose. This will give plenty of new growth in the spring. In July of the current season, mound up the bush with soil right up to the tips of the young shoots. Pack the soil in well, but leave a loose dust mulch on the outside of the mound. It takes two years for the European varieties to form good roots, but the native kinds make good roots the first year. The young plants are treated similar to currants, being left in the nursery row for one year before they are put in a permanent location.

Pruning.—Severe pruning is necessary to get a well balanced bush, and to keep the branches from trailing on the ground. For the West, spring pruning (after the leaves appear) will likely succeed best, for in spite of its hardiness, the gooseberry is killed back sometimes during the winter, and the spring pruning will then supplement the work done by Jack Frost.

Winter Protection.—It is safer to cover the bushes with straw or other light mulch in winter. In well sheltered locations this may not be necessary, but a cover of straw will, in any case, protect the bushes from direct sun and wind during the winter months.

Insect Enemies and Diseases.—One of the worst enemies of currants and gooseberries is the **Currant Worm**. It is the larva of a sawfly which lays its eggs on the underside of the leaves. The worm is black spotted, dark green in colour, and injures the plant by devouring the leaves. The first attack comes, as a rule, early in June, and a second attack generally comes when the fruit is ripening. It is very important to destroy this pest at once by spraying with Paris green. White hellebore is a safer poison to use on the bushes if the fruit is getting ripe.

Currant Aphis. This has been a serious pest in the West and has been instrumental in reducing the crop very much. These plant lice infest the lower side of the leaves in great numbers, causing the upper side to blister and assume a reddish-brown look. Eventually the leaf withers and dies. A forcible, fine spray of kerosene emulsion or whale oil soap solution applied to the underside of the leaves will suffocate the aphis. This operation will have to be repeated several times if the attack is bad.

Mildew.—This is a serious fungous disease on both currants and gooseberries. The foliage becomes covered with a white mould, dries up, falls off and the wood consequently fails to mature. Bordeaux mixture or ammoniacal copper carbonate are good spraying mixtures.

Varieties to use—

Gooseberries—Houghton, Downing, Carrie.