

STRAWBERRIES.

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A. B. C. OF STRAWBERRY CULTURE.

As it is the aim and desire of this society to have as much practical information as possible, it will not be within my province to go any deeper into this subject than the experience of the last four years would indicate, and this only brings me to the A. B. C. of Strawberry Culture. I believe the time has now arrived when we may consider that the growing of Strawberries for market, in Manitoba, has got beyond the uncertainty of the experimental stage, and we can now say, without hesitation, that in this province we can grow as fine flavored and almost as large berries as are grown in Ontario. In making this statement, I am fully aware of the responsibility attached to it, but when I state that a number of gardeners, in the vicinity of Winnipeg, have had fair crops of first-class fruit for the last six years, I consider these facts warrant such an opinion.

Of all kinds of small fruits there is not one that will repay the expense and trouble of manuring as will the strawberry. It delights in a deep, well-enriched and thoroughly cultivated seed bed; it will do well on a variety of soils as long as there is good drainage. Preference may be given to sandy locations over heavy clay, as the former will be earlier and is much easier to work, which is a special advantage in the setting of young plants. The first essential to success is the establishment of good, strong vigorous plants ready for planting in previously prepared land during the early growing seasons of spring and summer, keeping in mind the earlier