

questions for himself. Briefly, when the trees are fruiting and at the same time the foliage is a healthy green and a fair growth of new wood is being made, the orchard has enough nitrogen and the manuring should be in the direction of potash and phosphoric acid. If, however, the growth is at all feeble and the foliage sickly, nitrate of soda—150 lbs. to the acre—or barnyard manure should be immediately applied.

tree would cover the expense, and if the tree is not thinned there is the extra labor to be faced in picking the additional number of peaches at the time of maturity. The fruit should be thinned when the size of small hickory nuts and left not less than three or four inches apart. The profits from such a process are large and undoubted, as all growers who have tried it will testify. For fuller information on this point readers are



THINNING.—This is so important a feature of successful peach culture, and the practice of thinning is so little followed, that a few remarks on the subject will be in order. Thinning lessens the strain on the vitality of the tree, the strength of the tree going not to the pulp but to the seed. It allows of a more even distribution of the fruit and thus saves a frequent break-down. It increases the size of the fruit. It diminishes the danger from rot. As far as the labor of thinning is concerned it is a comparatively small affair. From ten to twenty cents a

referred to the excellent bulletin by Prof. Craig, No. 1, Second Series, of the Central Experimental Farm.

VARIETIES.—Local conditions must decide the variety question to a large extent. Of the earlier kinds two of the best commonly planted are *Early Rivers* and *Hyne's Surprise*. Next in order of season come *Yellow St. John*, *Mountain Rose* (white), *Early Crawford*, *Reeve's Favorite*, *Elberta*, *Old Mixon*, (white), *Late Crawford*, *Wager*, *Smock* and *Steven's Rareripe* (white).