

A wholesale dealer in Victoria gives the following as his experience:—

"The Magoon is far and away the best all-round strawberry. Clark's Seedling is equally good, better in some respects, but it is a poor cropper. It is the berry grown at Hood River, Oregon. Sharpless is altogether condemned. It is a fine large berry, but does not hold up at all."

MOISTURE AND IRRIGATION.

(*Michigan Bulletin No. 163.*)

There are few locations where strawberries are not each year more or less injured by lack of moisture in the soil, and where water can be readily secured for irrigating purposes the expense of applying it will be well repaid. Oftentimes a single application made when the fruit is about one-half grown will double the yield, and occasionally a crop will be saved which would be otherwise lost. Although its use is of less value during the first season's growth, it will often be found desirable, when the weather is dry, to make an application in order to promote the growth of the plants.

SUB-IRRIGATION.—By placing a line of drain-tile below the surface, a strip from 10 to 20 feet can be watered. If to be left permanently, the line should at least be below the reach of the plow; and in case the land requires underdraining, the tiles may be so arranged as to answer for both purposes. The depth should be then not less than $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet, and the tiles should be laid as nearly level as possible, and yet give a fall towards the outlet. When required for irrigation, the lower end of the tile can be closed and the drains flooded from the highest point. If merely needed for the strawberry crop, a temporary system of tiles may be laid. If put in before the plants are set, they should be covered at least 4 or 5 inches to be below the reach of the cultivator, but oftentimes the necessity is not recognised until about the time the fruit is ripening, and then it will be sufficient if the tiles are barely covered. Care should be taken to have the lines of the tile practically level for lengths of less than 100 feet, and beyond this the slope should be very slight. Where the tiles have a greater slope the water rushes to the lower end and breaks through to the surface. When properly arranged, the water should enter the tile only as fast as it soaks through the joints. In this way the tiles will be kept full and the water will be very equally distributed throughout the length of the tiles. While smaller or larger sizes might be used, a 3-inch common drain tile will give the best results. As most tiles are slightly curved in burning, by placing them with their rounded sides uppermost, a small crack will be left on the under side of each joint, and if care is taken that these openings are of about the same size, the water will be very evenly distributed. When the plants are set in narrow beds, a single line of tile along the centre will suffice, but the best results will be secured if the lines are independent, and each is filled from the highest point. A very small stream of water through a garden hose will supply a line 100 to 200 feet in length, and after having adjusted the flow, it will require no attention until the ground has been thoroughly wet. As the water will be applied beneath the surface, there will be much less loss from evaporation than when furrows are used, and, consequently, it will be more economical of water, and will permit the covering of a considerable area through a small