

**You've Got to Spray
If You Want Good Fruit**

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Every Service



"Most of the readers of THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST think this must be an exceptional tree or else that it has received extraordinary special treatment. It is a little out of the ordinary for a twelve-year-old tree to bear that many first class apples, but it is no uncommon thing for Spys to bear early here. This particular tree was planted in a break in my orchard when the first planted was lost by an accident, and was forced a little more than we usually do, in order, if possible, to make it catch up with the rest of the orchard. Hence the result.

"Still it is not that alone; it is the locality. Spys usually begin to bear with us at eight years if they receive anything like reasonable treatment. The Georgian Bay Fruit Growers, who are the leading growers here, have acres of Spys bearing four to five barrels a tree at from twelve to fourteen years of age, and have frequently had Ben Davis carry a barrel at five years. They, of course, receive first class treatment, the manager being a thorough orchardist.

Compulsory Spraying

"Noticing that fruit growers are agitating to have a law passed compelling spraying," writes G. W. Wright, the secretary of the Clarksburg Horticultural Society, to THE CANADIAN HORTICULTURIST, "I wrote my brother, D. W. Wright, one of the oldest growers in the Wenatchee Valley, in the State of Washington, and asked him how it is the fruit from his district is able to command such high prices in the east. He has replied as follows, and I commend what he says to our Ontario apple growers whose fruit I would like to see command as good prices as that from the Wenatchee Valley:

"Don't run away with the idea that you can grow apples as good as the Wenatchee Valley apples, which sell in New York and Boston for as much per box as the best eastern apples fetch for a barrel. Perhaps if your growers handled and packed their apples as we do you might get more. I am sending you some picking, packing and grading rules, WHICH WE HAVE GOT TO COMPLY WITH, or we can't ship our apples at all. There are always inspectors at every shipping point, so it is impossible to put in an imperfect one in a car lot. Every apple in a fancy or extra fancy box must be perfect. That is the reason! Then apples grown on high altitudes keep better than those grown in lower and moister temperatures.

"To grow fruit properly you must have laws, strictly enforced, as we have, compelling growers to keep clean orchards and clean fruit. If a grower here does not spray when the inspector tells him, it is done for him, which costs more than if he does it himself. I do not think that any one man, or any dozen, can grow A 1 apples, unless everyone is compelled by law to do the same.

"Here in Washington, one of the main crops is apples so it is easy to get laws and money voted to pay inspectors, which I am afraid you will find it hard to do. When you do the western apple will have competition, but not till then."

Good cultivation and all it means to the tiller of the soil has for its chief end the maintenance of sweet aerated tilth in which soil organisms can grow and work freely.

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I grow the Williams Improved, Parsons Beauty, Splendid and Michel's Early.

Last year the yield from 2.3-4 acres was 31,500 boxes, and in 1910 the yield from 11.5 acres of Williams Improved was 16,770 boxes.

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W. WALKER
Port Burwell, Ont.
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