

antidote to the above named practices.

If fruits were more freely used, both canned and dried, the medical fraternity would not wax rich so fast.

Let this be pondered upon and profited by our farmers, and the benefits of fruit-growing will be more apparent.

## FALL PLANTING OF STRAWBERRIES.

**B**Y this we mean the transplanting of runners of the present year's growth, whether it be done in July or October. By care and skill it may be done as soon as the young roots are an inch in length, or even earlier. The rule is, however, that a plant is not old enough to set until it has branched roots; nor is it self-supporting until sometime later. For this reason it is necessary to remove one or more of the leaves when setting out very young plants in the summer, lest more sap be evaporated than the roots can supply. As the season advances, more roots are developed, and there is less risk in the operation. While it is true that the earlier the work is done, other things being equal, the greater will be the crop, it is equally true that plants set early in September, when there is more moisture in the air and soil, usually do better than those set in a hot and dry time. If delayed too late, the danger is that they will not get sufficiently rooted to enable them to resist the effects of alternate freezing and thawing. Young plants in the summer are comparatively tender and sappy, and much more easily injured than when more mature. If taken out of hard ground, the roots may be bruised or broken, and if exposed to the sun or wind for even a few minutes, many of the fine hair roots will be destroyed. For this reason it is not best to take up plants in a dry time. It is better to let them grow where they are until rains moistens the soil so that all the roots may be lifted without injury.

The later the work is done the closer should plants be set to each other, so that they may fill the row with roots and shade the surface with their leaves. If set twelve inches apart in the row in July, ten inches will be enough in August, eight in September and six in October. The sun should never be allowed to shine on bare ground between plants in the row during the winter or early spring.

The soil for fall-set plants should be rich, so that their roots may find what they need near by, for they have not time to go far after it. It is well to prepare the place a week or two in advance, so as to let the ground get settled. And it is very important that the crown of the plant be not covered.

If the weather be dry and hot after planting, so that the plants wilt, they should get *one* good watering in the evening and the soil should be stirred the next morning. If this proves insufficient, they should either have some shade during the heat of the day, or the first leaves that wilt should be removed to lessen the evaporating surface.

If it is desired to test a new variety, the fall is the best time to plant it, for the reason that it will bear the next season and enable one to decide as to its value and give ample time to greatly increase the stock.

Fall-set plants must be protected during the winter. Two inches of straw will answer. Of course the drainage should be such that no water can lie on or near the surface.

—M. CRAWFORD.