

fruits, by various species of spinning mites which are usually spoken of in a general way by horticulturists under the name of 'Red Spiders.' These are all very minute reddish, or greenish white, mites that are found on the lower surfaces of the leaves, which they cover with a fine network of web in which they live and which renders it very difficult to get at them with ordinary liquid applications. These minute creatures propagate very rapidly, and their injuries to plants by sucking out the juice of the leaves is very soon apparent by the bleached appearance of the foliage, which soon dries up and falls away.

Remedy.—It is probable that most kinds of red spiders pass the winter as eggs on the bushes. Plantations which have been infested one year should be thoroughly sprayed early in the spring with the lime-sulphur wash. Sulphur has a specially fatal effect upon all kinds of mites. If bushes are found to be infested in spring or summer time, they should be sprayed forcibly with kerosene emulsion, which might be followed in persistent attacks, which often occur, by dusting the bushes while wet with powdered sulphur by means of one of the so-called insect guns or horticultural blowers.

THE CURRANT.

The currant is not so generally used in Canada as some other fruits, as few persons care for them when eaten raw, and when cooked they are usually made into jelly and consumed by only a comparatively small proportion of the people. In the colder parts of Canada where other fruits do not succeed well the currant is more popular and is used much more generally. It is a wholesome and refreshing fruit and deserves much more attention than it gets at the present time.

Soil.

Currants should be planted in rich soil in order to get the best results. The soil should also be cool as the currant is a moisture loving bush. The currant roots near the surface, hence if the soil is hot and dry the crop will suffer. A rich well-drained clay loam is the best for currants, although they will do well in most soils. If the soil is not as good as it might be it should receive a good dressing of manure before planting, which should be well worked into the soil, the latter being thoroughly pulverized before planting is done. A northern exposure is to be preferred, as in such a situation the currants are not likely to suffer in a dry time.

Planting.

The best time to plant currants is in the autumn. If planted in the spring they will probably have sprouted somewhat before planting, and on this account their growth the first season will be checked. Where the soil is in good condition currants, especially the black varieties, make strong growth, and the bushes reach a large size, hence it is better to give them plenty of space as they will do better and are easier