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THE FARMER'S ADVOCATE.

made in soft weather, and break up the manure, distributing it more evenly over the surface. Letting in the air has a beneficial effect. The depth of plowing will depend upon the depth of the soil, but the plow should be so adjusted as to turn all the soil and leave an even surface. Usually, the land should be pulverized by harrowing the same day it is plowed, and, by repeated cultivations, made mellow as a garden before planting time.

As a rule, the early-planted corn yields the best, though there are exceptions. Corn should be planted as soon as the ground is sufficiently warm to insure speedy germination, and maturity before the early autumn frosts. An extra preparatory cultivation for a week might be better than planting the seed in a cold, damp soil, in which the seed would sprout unevenly and show a sickly yellow color. Corn is an exceedingly rapid grower if it receives a fair show, and under favorable conditions will soon make up for lost time. In a heavy clay soil, one inch to an inch and a quarter is probably deep enough to plant, but in light, open soil about three inches will be a more satisfactory depth. Mechanical land planters are still used in many localities, but, as the corn acreage increases the two-row planter becomes more generally employed, as it is a great saver of time, insures more even planting and economizes seed. In the silo districts the ordinary grain drill is used, shutting off all the tubes except two, about three or three and a half feet apart, but this plan, as a rule, plants the corn too thickly or unevenly. It has been abundantly proven that the largest yield of stalks and ears of the highest quality results from planting three or four kernels to the hill, in hills three to three and a half feet apart each way. Modern planters are so constructed as to plant either in hills or drills, in the latter case dropping kernels 10 or 12 inches apart in the row. An even distribution of stalks is important, so there will be no crowding, and ample room for development. Corn likes plenty of space, air and sunshine. With the corn harvester, it is a little easier to cut when the corn is in drills, rather than hills; but better cultivation can more easily be given with hills in straight lines each way. As an average for nine years, the Indiana Experiment Station obtained the best results from rows 3 feet 8 inches apart, with one stalk every 11 inches in the row. The Illinois Experiment Station, after five years' trial, gives the following directions: On ordinary corn land in northern Illinois, plant corn in hills 36 inches apart, with three kernels per hill. In central Illinois, on land of a productive capacity greater than 50 bushels per acre, plant hills 39.6 inches apart, with three kernels per hill; and on land of a lower capacity plant hills 36 inches apart, with two kernels to the hill. The practice, therefore, varies, as it does in Canada, with soils and other conditions. The maximum of well-developed, matured ears and stalks is what is wanted, whether we have the silo or the corn-crib in view. Whatever plan has produced the best results on any given farm in these particulars, that is probably the plan to follow. Where hand-planting is done, some of the markers illustrated in "The Farmer's Advocate" will be found useful.

As soon as the corn begins to show through the soil, it should have a light stroke of the harrow or weeder, and in a few days another. Then get the two-horse cultivator going, and keep it going. One or two trips through with the hoe will likely be necessary to cut out straggling thistles and other intruders which have no useful place in the corn field. When the corn becomes too high for the team, some growers use a single-horse cultivator for a final stirring of the soil between the rows, but the cultivation should not go too deeply or the root system of the plant will be damaged, and the supply of food necessary to proper growth lessened. Cultivate often enough to keep down all weeds, to break the crust after every rain, and preserve a soil mulch. If the weather becomes very hot, rig up a big umbrella over the cultivator seat, or an old buggy top, make yourself comfortable, and keep a-going.

GARDEN & ORCHARD.

Prince Edward County Orcharding

The possibilities of apple-orcharding in Ontario are now becoming appreciated. Many new plantations are being made, and old ones improved. Commercial concerns are taking up the enterprise by leasing orchards in different counties and putting them under modern methods of culture. Prince Edward County, Ont., is well known for the fine quality of its apples, and a Toronto syndicate, The National Land, Fruit and Packing Co., have already leased over thirty thousand trees there for a period of ten years, and expect to increase the number as time goes on. They have been working in the orchards for a month or more. They expected to do a great deal of pruning, but have been unable to get a great deal of that done, owing to the scarcity of labor. They have some six or seven gangs (of four men each) at work in different parts of the county, pruning and scraping the trees. Recently, they had six

power spraying outfits shipped to the county, and were turning these gangs to spraying, and increasing their men as they could obtain them. They hope to get every tree sprayed at least three times, and during the time between sprayings they will have men cultivating and pruning. They seem to be determined to give the orchards the best possible attention, but it will be impossible to care for all the orchards they have with the amount of help available.

Apple Tree Planting Experience.

Editor "The Farmer's Advocate":

The time is approaching when hundreds are making preparations for setting out young apple trees, but how many know the proper method of

every little root and fibre under water. We then commenced to dig the holes, taking the surface soil and putting in one pile, while the under soil we placed in another pile. We were never in a hurry, always making the hole large enough to admit all the roots without cramping any of them. As soon as we finished digging the holes, we abandoned the work until the buds on the trees in the ditch had started nicely, when the transplanting commenced, only taking a few out at a time. Each tree was carefully set in the hole, the surface soil was nicely packed around every root, and packed firmly down; then the other soil was placed on top. This was the treatment each young tree went through, until the whole one hundred had been planted. Then, a quantity of coarse manure, to about five inches in depth, was planted around each tree. As the

season was very dry, we watered the young trees six times during the season; in any event, they should be watered immediately after they are set out, and in about three weeks after. When fall came, there were 97 out of the 100 living.

The other two fellows unpacked their trees, dug holes and put them out, and watered them once or twice. What was the result? One had 10 out of the 50 living, while the other had about 35. They commenced condemning the nursery company, but soon abandoned the accusation when they learned about our success, admitting that there must be something in the transplanting. Any kind of tree or shrub put into water, with the buds started well, will nearly always grow. Try this experiment.

The second year is another hard time for young trees, if they grow rapidly; they are liable to hurt the bark. To be sure and on the safe side, as soon as the young trees have budded, take your jackknife, and with the point of the blade draw it down lightly from where the limbs start, straight down to the ground, cutting just a light mark. Do not press heavily, as you would cut to the wood. Always do this on the north side. By doing this, you will have no trees with cracked bark. What cracks the bark or bursts it is the wood growing so much faster than the bark expansion. Cutting relieves the bark, and prevents it from bursting. These methods, I have found, have

given great satisfaction where used.

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[Note.—It is doubtful whether immersing the roots in water for very long is to be commended.

What has been the experience of others on this point? Puddling the roots on opening the package of young trees on arrival from the nursery, has been often advised. Heaping manure close to the trunk of the trees is not advisable, as it may be detrimental to bark, and in winter is a harbor for mice. Pruning back the top and roots of the tree before planting should not be forgotten.—Editor]



Don't Grow Corn Like This.



This is Corn-growing.

doing the transplanting, whereby they can have the best success? There are many theories, but how many are practical? If the young trees die, the whole fault is laid at the feet of the nursery company, which is not altogether to blame, as I will prove to you. Three years ago, my brother purchased through me, from a nursery, 100 apple trees and 100 for a couple of neighbors, and sold 50 trees to each. The three lots were packed and shipped in the same box, were delivered the same day, and set out about the same time, and I assisted my brother in setting out the trees. I might add that I conducted the work myself. The first thing we did was to take the young trees, as soon as they were unpacked to a ditch of water, where every tree was carefully placed, being very careful about getting