

further than is necessary to carry off the surface water; yet it will be noticed that their mode of cultivation is to avoid the juicy spots, leaving them to be dealt with at a more favourable period—which propitious opportunity is always in the future. These objectionable patches luxuriant with rushes and other sub-aquatic plants, that only flourish in ground surcharged with stagnant water, are frequently conspicuous land-marks in arable fields.

The growing of fruit, both large and small, is fast becoming a farm crop, and one of the first considerations is to secure thorough drainage. The distance between drains will depend upon the nature of the soil and depth of drain. If stone is the more convenient material, a greater depth will be required than if tiles or pipes are used. As soils differ in texture the depth is an important step, and where this variation occurs in the same field, a test drain is the safest guide. If a clay subsoil is taken as a criterion, the transverse area drained will be in ratio with the square of the depth; that is, a drain four feet of average depth will drain sixteen feet on opposite sides—therefore—thirty-two feet will be the required distance between each parallel drain.

The selection of varieties is a point for due consideration, and should be made with reference to their merits—such as quality, longevity, and freedom from disease; likewise they vary in the rind or outer bark, shape and colour of the fruit, from dark blue through all the intermediate shades to red. From golden yellow to dark green the interlucous colourings are less numerous; the yellow ground preponderating. The blue varieties throughout are short lived, being first to suffer from the black knot. The greens are less susceptible but yield after a struggle. The yellow offers the greatest resistance, and some are exempted from its fatal influence. This disease, if it may be so styled, has been in the country for over a half century; its appearance and effects are too well known to require description. Various theories and opinions have been promulgated as to its nature and origin. It is now admitted to be a plant—an annual—growing on the tree, and like the parasitic fungi of wheat, distributing its seeds through the medium of the atmosphere. On certain varieties of the Plum it is propagated with fearful rapidity, especially those with tender bark and downy shoots, where its atomical seeds find a secure resting place, abiding their time—which occasion is the following Spring when the trees put forth. By the first of June, small wavy protuberances may be noticed on the limbs and outer twigs—some elongated and irregular—