

What to Give a Boy



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used as a fertilizer in place of wood ashes.

Moisture and shade are favorable to fungous diseases; prune carefully to let in the air and sunshine.

Had Niagara district fruit-growers devoted the same money and care to apples that they have to peaches, they would be better off than they are.

Nature does not intend a tree to bear only every other year. Secure a good average crop every year by proper treatment of the tree and thinning out excessive crops.

Six thousand barrels with practically no imperfect apples were grown in Jas. Curtis' orchard, N. Y. He sprays four times, cultivates till August 1st, then seeds to red clover, which is plowed down about June 1st the year following. Cultivates till August 1st, and then re-seeds.

G. Walmsley, of Waupoos:—Cultivate the orchard in early stages; latterly mulch with a mixture of horse and cow manure.

H. Grimmon, of Port Milford:—Got good crops every year by cultivating and manuring the orchard, while neighboring orchards not so treated were almost failures.

The limestone soils of Prince Edward County give flavor and color to the apples.

A. N. Brown, of Delaware State:—The bearing orchard takes one-third more fertility from the soil than a crop of wheat. Don't let grass grow in spring when the tree needs the food. Cultural-mulch system is best. He plows first thing in spring and cultivates every week till July; then seeds with cow peas, vetches or crimson clover. Cultivate with weeder, leaving the growth on the ground till the following spring.

Black-rot fungus, or canker, is the most serious menace to the Bay of Quinte orchards. It appears on the leaves in small purplish spots; on the fruit, which it causes to waste away, and the spores gain admission to the bark where injured by wounds or sunscald, and must be met by spraying and cutting away the affected parts of limbs and branches.

For codling moth, spray with Bordeaux mixture and Paris green immediately when the blossoms fall. Let hogs eat the wormy trash, and encourage the native birds, which are the friends of the farmer—White-breasted Nuthatch; Downy, Hairy and Red-headed Woodpeckers, particularly.

Peter Collier, South Bay:—Don't try to get a good crop of apples and a big crop of hay or grain out of the same plot.

Spraying is not an experiment. It is a necessity.

The San Jose scale was really a benefit to some fruit-growers, because it compelled them to spray.

Black heart is a result of winter freezing, and the preventive measures are to prevent late growth, which is promoted by too late cultivation, too much moisture or excessive nitrogen through heavy applications of barnyard manure, or soils naturally rich in that element.

L. K. Shourds attributes most cases of black heart to neglect of young trees, or setting in damp soils.

Commercial lime-sulphur preparation can be laid down in Eastern Ontario at \$13 per barrel, and will make 600 gallons winter spray and 1,000 gallons summer mixture. It costs more than the home-boiled, but does not crystallize, and can be applied cold.

Robt. Thompson:—You can rig up a plank and galvanized-iron boiler at home for about \$5 for boiling, and prepare the homemade mixture for about 75 cents per barrel, counting labor and materials. Use 19 pounds sulphur to 20 or 22 of lime and 48 gallons water, and add 3 pounds arsenate of lead for summer spraying. First bring 15 or 16 gallons water to a boil; mix sulphur to a paste in a pail, and put into the water. Then stir in the lime and boil for about one hour, till it has a greenish tinge. Add more water and stir through a 50-mesh cone strainer. Must be warm when sprayed. Prefers lime-sulphur for winter spraying, and it may yet supplant Bordeaux for summer spraying. Used three pounds arsenate of lead (13c a lb.) to the barrel in the second spraying, just as blossoms fall; in the third spraying ten days later, and in the fourth, two or three weeks later. Dissolve it in water before adding to the lime-sulphur.

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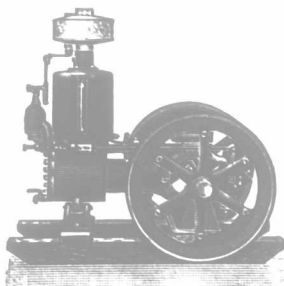
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