

PROPAGATION OF BERRIES.

SIR,—An agent tells me that the best nurserymen sell stock grown from seed only, and not from tips, root cuttings or suckers. He said that to grow from the seed was the only way to keep the stock from running out. Will you please give me some light on the subject?

MORRIS MALLORY, *Guild, Ont.*

This is entirely a mistaken notion. When berries are propagated from seeds there can be no dependence upon the variety that will result. Indeed, it is by sowing seeds that new varieties are procured, but, as a rule, hundreds of seedlings are worthless, to one that possesses any superiority to existing varieties. For instance, in order to propagate the cap raspberries, such as Gregg and Soughegan, it must be done by tips, and red raspberries, such as Malboro and Turner, it must be done from suckers; and of blackberries, such as the Kittatinny, by root-cuttings or suckers. The best nurserymen practice these methods, and it is a mistake to say that they must be propagated from the seed.

COOPER'S MARKET.

SIR,—Fruit-tree agents are selling here an apple tree called Cooper's Market, and recommending fruit growers to plant it as the coming apple. Will you please tell me its merits, history, etc.

HENRY LAWLESS, *Grafton, Ont.*

Cooper's Market is a good apple, in season from December to May. It has long been known in the State of New Jersey, where it has been considered a valuable market apple. It is medium in size, deeply shaded with red and striped with crimson. The flesh is white and tender, with a crisp, sub-acid flavor. We have had some trees of this variety in bearing for about twenty years past, and the samples are always bright and clean, scarcely any needing to be culled out in packing. The tree, however, is slender in habit of growth and does not appear to attain such a size as the Baldwin or Greening. On this account it would, perhaps, not yield so many apples to the tree as these other varieties.

THE QUANTITY OF ASHES.

SIR,—How many bushels of unleached ashes to the acre is advisable?

H. GOODWILLIE, *Welland.*

Ashes are chiefly valuable in furnishing potash to the soil, an element which has an excellent effect upon the orchard and vineyard. It is more useful, however, upon light soils than upon heavy clay, because the potash has a tendency to make the clay still more tenacious. Fifty bushels per acre is usually considered a very fair dressing.