

open or close, as necessity may require. Then in the centre of the roof leave a hole, say twelve inches square, protected, as you would the ventilator in an ice-house. The hole can be fitted with a door, either to swing or slide. This system will give perfect ventilation. Unless the temperature inside should be above 35°, the outside ventilators should not be open. This plan will answer well in summer or winter. Any carpenter ought to be able to get a good idea of the building, from this description.—J. HEAGERTY, N. Y., in *American Gardening*.

### CLEAR POTASH AS A FRUIT MANURE.



E have used, within the last few years, a good deal of potash in connection with the trees in my orchard, usually buying it by the cask for this purpose. We simply break the potash into small pieces, not larger than egg size, using about eight pounds to an average sized tree, scattering it upon the ground about the tree in a circle extending half way from the trunk to the extremity of the branches. When this is done in the autumn, or early spring, the rains and snow dissolve the potash, which will be absorbed and spread through the soil, thus bringing the fertilizing properties directly to the small roots of the trees without the slightest injury to the vegetation. The future crops will show remarkable results, both in quantity and quality of fruit. In 1889 our trees bore, as did everybody's that year, a heavy crop of apples; and again, last year, we have had, what few others had, a crop nearly as large as the previous year, which proved of a remarkably fine quality, both in appearance and freedom from decay. This we attribute to the free use of potash on the soil above the trees, proving clearly that potash is a fertilizer essential to the growth of fruit. One pear tree, which for a long time had small and imperfect fruit, the spring following the application of potash produced pears of extraordinary size and singularly free from blemish. We esteem potash as admirably adapted to all kinds of fruits, large and small. Eight pounds of potash would seem to be a pretty large dose for one tree, but the results noted above do not indicate an injurious effect.—*Horticultural (Eng.) Times*.

**MARKING GRADES OF FRUIT.**—It is very important that the grower, not only should pack his fruit honestly, through and through alike, but also that he should in some way indicate to the buyer the grade, without giving him the trouble of examining each basket. Stencilling the words "Grade 1," "Grade 2," etc., on the handle of each basket, or the head of each barrel, will accomplish this end, or simply the figures 1, 2, 3, according to grade. Some peach growers, they say, indicate the grade of the peaches by the number of sprigs of peach leaves placed on the top of the baskets.