

ROOT-CUTTINGS.

This is practised principally with blackberries, dewberries, etc. Dig up the medium-sized roots in the fall or spring of the year, and cut them into lengths of 2 or 3 inches. Plant these out 2 inches deep and 3 to 4 inches apart in well-prepared soil.

SUCKERING.

This is the method by which the red raspberries are usually propagated. The suckers or sprouts are dug from the bearing patch either in the fall or spring of the year. These will serve for use in the new patch.

RUNNERS.

Strawberries are propagated from runners. These can be made to root quicker in some soils by covering the joints of the runners with a little soil, or by placing a stone on them near the joints.

SEEDS.

The stock which is used in the propagation of the tree-fruits is grown principally from seed, and is called a seedling. The seeds are either sown in the fall, or they are stratified (frozen) in boxes of sand during the winter, and then sown in the spring.

New varieties of apples, pears, peaches, currants, berries, etc., can be grown from the seed of the fruit or berries. It is seldom that a good variety is obtained in this manner. Many of the shade and ornamental trees, such as maples, oak, elms, locust, catalpa, ash, and evergreens, can be grown from the seed. The evergreens are rather difficult to start, as the seedlings require shade, etc., but they can be grown by using proper care.

SELECTION OF NURSERY STOCK.

The careful selection of nursery stock is an important consideration in the planting of an orchard. At this time the grower is laying the foundation of his orchard, and the results of a poor selection at that time will magnify greatly as the orchard grows older. The best grade of nursery stock, although the most costly, will prove the cheapest in the end. It is advisable to order the stock early, so as to secure the best stock of the varieties that are to be planted.

The nurseryman's obligations to the grower are: (1) That he supply varieties true to name; (2) that he supply clean, healthy, vigorous, well-matured stock; (3) that he be careful in the digging, storing, and packing of his stock; (4) that he be prompt in sending out orders, and be careful to have it well packed, and shipped during seasonable weather; (5) that he has placed the necessary bonds with the Government as a protection to those who buy his trees; and (6) that all his agents have secured the licence which is required of them by the Government.

The buyer's obligations to the nurseryman are: (1) That he call for the stock immediately on its arrival at the point of delivery; (2) that he carefully handle and protect the stock until it is planted; and (3) that he is careful in preparing the soil and in setting out the trees.

HOW TO HANDLE STOCK.

Stock often reaches the grower in good condition, but, through careless handling on his part, the stand obtained is not satisfactory, and the nursery-