

EXPERIENCE WITH SPRAYING.



AM not aware of the nature of Prof. Taft's spraying operations at the College. At this sub-station, the spraying was done by myself, with only general directions from Prof. Taft. Owing to the late arrival of material, the spraying was barely commenced when the almost calamitous, rainy season, stopped the work, which we were unable to resume till the development of fungus had proceeded too far for remedy. Subsequent spraying had, apparently, the effect to arrest grape mildew, or at least to check its development so far, that of most varieties, a moderate crop matured in fair condition.

Quinces, which had in previous years been badly affected with leaf spot, were apparently saved by the early spraying. Good results were apparent also upon pears and plums; but the foliage of the apple of many, if not most varieties, was so seriously injured that very few have made much growth during the season, while the visitation has resulted in the total loss of the year's crop of fruit, except in northern Michigan; while the visitation occurred while the trees were yet nearly, or quite, dormant; with the result that they have been favored with a superior "all around" crop of fruit; such exemption extending to about the south line of Oceana County, on the west side of the State, and must be attributed to the cause already stated, rather than to the effects of spraying.

I have had the Alexander apple in fruit since about 1850, and have found it a moderate bearer of large, fair and very beautiful fruit. It is quite too acid for dessert, but I know no superior for culinary uses. The tree is vigorous and healthy. Wolf River is an alleged seedling from this, and is almost identical with it.

The season's report from this sub-section is now in the hands of Prof. Taft, to be published by the State Board of Agriculture; you will, no doubt, receive a copy from their secretary, Henry G. Reynolds, Agricultural College, Mich., who distributes them gratuitously.

Director South Haven Sub-Experiment Station, Michigan.

T. T. LYON.

General Lawn Management.—You want variety in flowers and flower arrangement—something different next season from what you had last. Make your plans; decide on kinds and arrangement, and be in time with your orders for stock and seeds. Soon after heavy falls of snow tramp it down around trees and shrubs, and shake it out of the branches of evergreens. Rustic work may now be made. Besides the cedar of our swamps, the canes of wild-grape vines will be found eminently serviceable for this purpose. Laurel wood and roots also make good material; and many other kinds of timber will work up well. With a little ingenuity, rustic tables, seats, arbors, vases, hanging baskets, etc., may be made that are just as ornamental as they are inexpensive.