

over 3½ feet growth, pinch off *the tips* during summer. Winter-prune all leaders for strength, and check centre leader if required.

*Third Year.*—Summer-prune all stronger growths not required as main branches to stubs, and tip back leaders if making over 3½ feet growth. Winter-prune for strength and form.

*Fourth Year.*—Thin fruits, if necessary, according to the growth the tree is making. Summer-prune stronger unrequired branches to stubs. Winter-prune for strength, and check leader if necessary. Cut out some of the stronger branches and leave weaker ones for fruit.

*Fifth Year.*—Thin fruit according to growth. Summer-prune all the weaker unrequired branches to stubs. Winter-prune for strength, light, and shape.

*Sixth Year.*—Thin fruit according to growth. Summer-prune, if necessary, the weaker unrequired branches to stubs. Winter-prune for strength, light, and shape.

*Trees in Bearing.*—Thin fruit-spurs according to growth the tree is making. Winter-prune for strength, and to keep the trees open enough to allow the penetration of light and air, and to shape the tree.

*Old Bearing Trees.*—Winter-prune to thin the fruit by removing a number of the fruit-spurs, or by cutting back long fruit-spur branches to invigorate those fruit-spurs left. Prune to invigorate the growth of the tree, to open out the tree to allow plenty of light and air to enter, and to shape and balance the trees.

*In General.*—Encourage the formation of fruit-spurs on young trees. Let them bear according to the growth they are making. Thin branches most where least light can enter. Avoid all narrow, weak crotches and spread or contract your trees by taking advantage of natural-growth characteristic. Keep your pruning-tools sharp. When removing large branches, prune close and in line with the remaining parts to facilitate quick healing of wounds. Use grafting-wax on large wounds to prevent water from entering the wood until nature heals it over.

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