

I have since heard that the asparagus plants will do better to remain for another year before transplanting. Will you kindly advise me as to this. The soil is a rich clay loam, well drained naturally.

Yours very truly,  
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Strong one year old plants are best but they may be transplanted at two years old, if more convenient.

The roots should be set about six inches below the surface of the soil; some advise setting deeper, but of course that would mean later starting in the spring.

### One Hundred Apple Trees.

**1081.** SIR,—In planting out an orchard of 100 apple trees, what kinds would you recommend, and how many of each, so as to give the family sufficient for use during summer and fall and the balance winter fruit, principally for shipment.

E. J. P., *Kintore.*

The following would make a very good list for family use, with a larger number of those kinds suitable for export; Early Harvest 1, Porter 1, Sweet Bough 1, Red Astracan 2, Duchess 10, Alexander 5, Fall Pippin, Gravenstein 10, Blenheim Orange 10, Wealthy 20, King 5, Fameuse 2, Greening 2, Ontario 20, Spy 10.

### Spys on Tolman Sweet.

**1082.** SIR,—In the case of Spys or other late bearing trees of good quality would they bear any earlier by being top-grafted on Talman Sweet stems.

E. J. P.

We know of no instance of testing the Spy on Talman sweet. Some have claimed to have made the King apple more productive by top-grafting it on Talman Sweet.

### Mixed Planting.

**1083.** SIR,—Would it be advisable to plant plum, pear, cherry, peaches, or early

bearing apples among the regular rows of the apple orchard, to be cut out when their room would be needed by the apple trees?

E. J. PEARSON, *Kintore, Ont.*

We would not advise this except in the case of peaches and possibly dwarf pears; plums, cherries and dwarf apples are longer lived, and would just reach their best days when they would have to be sacrificed.

We think, unless land is very limited, it is best to plant each fruit separate.

Questions (1084 to 1090) answered by  
Mr. W. Hunt gardener, Hamilton.

### Ferns.

**1084.** SIR,—What is the best time and way of increasing Adiantum ferns, and the best compost to pot them in.

Adiantum ferns can be increased by dividing old plants in the spring, just as the young fronds are commencing to unfold from near the roots of the plant. Pot each division into small pots at first, repot into larger as required. A good compost for them can be made by mixing two parts of well rotted fibry loam, with one part each of leaf mould, (or peat) and sand, use plenty of drainage, and keep the plants in a shaded position, during the summer, water well at the roots, but do not sprinkle or syringe very often. Adiantum can be raised from seed sown in a box or pan filled with fine peat and leaf soil, with a little sand mixed with them, do not cover the seed at all, water very carefully; or a few well ripened fronds may be laid on a moss covered stone, kept in a well shaded position, and watered carefully; the latter is oftentimes the most successful method. Seedling Adiantums make better plants than those from divisions, but require great care at first.