est difficulty about the market. The prairies and the north country can take five times as many berries as can be raised here for a long time to come.

Before the local fruit-growers were able to affiliate with the central exchange, it was necessary for them to reorganize their association here. That has been done recently. A warehouse has been secured, and a permanent paid secretary, in the person of James Drummond, who seems to understand his business thoroughly. Packing-houses will also be erected at several central points throughout the district, including one at Salt Spring Island. These arrangements have been found necessary, owing to the immense strides the industry has made during the past year or two. Last year there was an unusually large pear crop in the district. There were no facilities for proper distribution, and the result was that the local market was glutted. The prices went away down to as low as fifty cents a box, and the lesson was learned.

Vancouver Island has every facility for fruit-growing and for mixed farming. All kinds of fruit, such as apples, pears, cherries, plums and prunes, as well as berries and small fruits, grow to perfection. There is a good market for all these. The climate is the best in the world. On the other hand, the fact that the land has to be cleared of heavy timber before being brought under cultivation makes the land dearer than it is in an open country, where there are no trees.

It is possible to start with a small amount of capital, but the settler must have some cash in order to plant the first lot of strawberries from which the first return will be received. The larger fruits will be planted among the berries, so that the trees are growing while crops are being taken from the land.

HENRY F. PULLEN.

A NEW ASPARAGUS PEST.

A correspondent, Mr. Webb, of London, Ont., has submitted for identification a red-spotted beetle found on asparagus. The name of the insect is Crioceris 12-punctatus, a European pest, which was first reported at Baltimore about 1890. Since then it has spread throughout the Eastern States. Dr. Fletcher reported it in Niagara District about 1898. This insect is said to be less destructive than the striped asparagus beetle—Crioceris asparagi. The confinement of poultry on the asparagus bed has been tried and commended by some growers.

BLACKBERRY RUST.

The leaves of my blackberry bushes are covered with something like rust. I noticed one or two bushes two years ago, but this year nearly half of the row is like it. The bushes are well cultivated and cared for—no weeds among them. Is there anything I can do for it, or will they have to be dug up? M. J. F.

Ans.—The disease on the blackberry bushes is what is commonly known as "orange rust." This is a disease for which there is no remedy other than cutting out and burning the infested bushes. It should be done as soon as the disease makes its appearance, for the mycelium of the fungus is perennial in the blackberry canes, and when a bush is once affected it never recovers, but the disease spreads by means of the orange-colored dust or spores, which are the fruiting form of the fungus. H. L. HUTT.

O. A. C.

SPRAYING TO PREVENT POTATO BLIGHT AND ROT.

Under the head of "Potato-growing Suggestions," published in the Massachusetts Crop Report, Chas. D. Woods, Director Maine Agricultural Experiment Station, summarizes his advice as follows:

To successfully grow potatoes: Select highly fertile land, so situated that it will suffer as little as possible from excessive rain or drouths.

Thoroughly prepare the soil, and fertilize liberally.

Spray for insects and blight early and often.

Keep the crop free from weeds, and the surface of the soil loose during the whole season.

Do not let anything prevent the potato field from receiving constant care.

Under the head of condensed directions for combating insect and fungous pests, the author says: For insects, spray with a poison alone, the approved formula being Paris green ¼ pound, lime (unslacked) 3 pounds, water 50 (American) gallons. The lime is added to prevent the Paris green from burning the foliage. Slack the lime in a little water, and make a thin paste and strain; wet up the Paris green with a little water into a thin paste, then mix the lime and Paris green, and add the remainder of the water. If flea-beetles are numerous, or there is danger of blight, use poisoned Bordeaux mixture.

For blights, begin to spray when the tops are six or eight inches high, and spray thoroughly every ten days—every week, if necessary. If insects are plentiful, use the poisoned Bordeaux mixture (Bordeaux and Paris green) formula, 5 pounds copper sulphate, 5 pounds fresh lime (unslacked), and 50 (American) gallons of water, to which is added ½ lb. of Paris green, in the form of a paste, prepared as described above. After danger of insects is past, use the Bordeaux mixture alone, omitting the Paris green. Usually six but sometimes four sprayings are sufficient to protect against late blight, but the leaves should show a coating of Bordeaux from the time spraying commences until the crop is harvested or the tops are killed by frost. One thorough spraying in muggy weather, before the blight has gained a foothold, may be the most effective application of the season. If early blight is prevalent, five or six very thorough sprayings, beginning early in the season, are necessary to insure protection.

A CANADIAN FORMULA.

The above directions call for rather more frequent sprayings than Canadian authorities usually deem necessary. In this connection, we quote from an artice prepared by H. B. Smith, who investigated the potato industry for the Ontario Department of Agriculture in 1906. He says: "Late blight and early blight are the two commonest potato diseases (the spores of the latter also cause rot). Both may be controlled by the Bordeaux-mixture formula, 6 pounds bluestone, 4 pounds lime, 50 gallons water. For the late blight, commence spraying July 15th; for the early blight, about the middle of June. The early blight is rarely very prevalent. Spraying with Bordeaux costs from five to eight dollars per acre.

Again the Call for Harvest Hands.