

market, or for shipping, a good cropper, the best all-round berry with me. Clark's Seedling is good for home use, local market, a splendid shipper; it is not as rank a grower as Magoon and not quite so productive, but a very attractive berry. Nick Ohmer is a perfect berry and productive, but the plants seem to kill out very bad with me. About one-third died the first winter. I have several other varieties growing here now. Some I have not tested enough to give any opinion on; the ones I have mentioned are the best I have tested so far. I have had very good success planting in October; the plants get rooted in the fall and make far better growth during the following summer. They should not be allowed to bear fruit the first summer. I like the hill system the best; the plants will bear two more good crops of fruit than by the matted row system. Besides, I think there are quite a lot of berries destroyed by the pickers when they are matted. I find that cultivating them thoroughly in spring until they come in blossom is the best plan; also as soon as the crop is off until fall, with horse cultivator. I do not think strawberries should be grown here without mulching; the weather is showery during the fruiting season, and if they are not mulched the berries are spoilt by sand. I think that wheat straw cut with a chaff cutter makes the best mulch, as it does not interfere with cultivation after the crop is harvested. Mulching can be done when they are coming into blossom. It is easily done with cut straw. Fill a large basket and scatter along the plants; the chaff will fall in and around the plants thoroughly. I do not like mowing off the plants and burning them. It might be a good plan in some localities, but I think the sun is too hot here for that. When the tops of the plants are mowed off the sun is too hot for the exposed roots, and seems to kill a good many of them.

Thos. A. Brydon, Victoria: The Magoon is the berry that I am growing almost exclusively, and especially for shipping. It is a number one berry. I recommend spring-time, as early as the ground can be got in good condition, for planting. The hill system I recommend. Mulching should be done just before the fruit begins to ripen, covering the whole ground and under leaves of the plants with straw, but before the mulch is placed be sure the ground is well cultivated and all weeds removed round the plants. Clean cultivation is an absolute necessity to success.

W. H. Lewis, Burnaby: I grow nothing but the Magoon now. I used to try and grow berries to give a succession, but gave it up. Late frosts killed the bloom on early varieties most of the time. Mitchel's Early was the best I ever tried for early crop and Gandy for late, but Gandy is a poor cropper. This market demands a large berry and Magoon fills the bill as well as any; it is a good cropper and fairly good shipper. I advise planting as early in the spring as it is possible to get the ground in good shape. Never plant in the fall. Hill system, not over 10 or 12 inches apart by about 32-inch rows. I used to plant a great deal further apart, both ways, but am convinced it is a waste of ground. Keep clean and cultivate with Planet Jr. cultivator about once a week from early spring until blossoms appear, has been my rule heretofore, but the best crop of berries I ever grew were mulched in the fall and taken off in the spring, when I cultivated as before mentioned. I decided two years ago that I would never grow another crop of berries without fall mulching, because the plants invariably freeze