

A FRUIT HOUSE.



IN some localities it is rather difficult to secure a good cellar without considerable work. Often draining by digging a trench is necessary; and when this is the case it will often pay to build a fruit house above the ground, rather than to run the risk of water flooding in and damaging the fruit and vegetables. A fruit house, if well built, so as to be frost-proof, is much more convenient than a cellar in many ways, but good care must be taken in doing the work if good results are to be secured.

Two by six inch studding will be the best; that is, not less than this should be used. They can be placed two feet apart, and it is usually best to brace the corners. Eight feet is plenty high, and, in most cases, six will be sufficient. It should be built close to the ground, so that it can be banked up readily on all sides. On the outside rough boards can be nailed on first, and over this a layer of tarred paper or heavy straw paper, and then the whole should be carefully weatherboarded.

When it can be done, it will be best to fill the space between the studding with sawdust, taking care to fill in tightly. Rough boards can be nailed on the inside, and over this tarred paper should again be tacked.

Overhead a tight layer of boards should be put and on them a good layer of sawdust. A chimney, or place for ventilation, should be provided. Care should be taken to make tight; the door and ventilator should be all the openings. Good, close-fitting doors, one to open outside and one inside, will help. Boxes or bins should be built inside and about four inches away from the wall. This will give air space between the wall and the fruit. To make doubly sure, an old stove set in the room in which a little fire may be made in the severest weather, will be found a benefit, as a very little fire will lessen very materially the danger of damage. A house of this kind, in a winter like the last one, will keep fruit and vegetables without freezing, but in winters such as we sometimes have a little fire will be necessary.—Fruit Growers' Journal.

Pruning Grapes in Summer.—After the bunches of grapes have formed on the new vine profitable work can be done by going along pinching off the vines just above the fourth leaf, or one leaf above the last bunch of grapes. This will turn much of the sap into the new vine which is to come out, either at the ground or near to it, to make wood for next year when the old vine is cut away. After this year's vines have been pinched off, a new branch will shoot out at the base of each leaf. If these are also pinched off when but a few inches long, no more vines will start out from them and all the sap for this season will go into the fruit and into the new vine which shot out from the ground.—Orange Judd Farmer.