

Then it stole in by way of the San-Culottes, the degenerate "Fence Corner" varieties. After thus establishing itself, it, like the cholera, seized whatever was nearest of the higher classes.

Though we have such comparative immunity from diseases, the insects sufficiently reinforce them to bring us down to average in regard to quantity.

The Tent caterpillar came, did much mischief, but is rarely seen now. The fall web and canker worm are here, but not yet troublesome. The curculio disfigures some of the thin-skinned apples, and is equal to the whole crop of plum and cherry. Thorough jarring saves the fruit. I have not tried poisons.

The codlin moth sometimes, and of some varieties, takes, with the owner, about "share and share alike." If the Yankees sent the moth here to secure a supply of champagne cider apples, they succeeded. Car-loads are yearly sold them. Those who have turned their orchards into sheep and swine pastures have nearly driven out the moth, while the pork and mutton seem none the worse for the mixed diet.

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HOW TO PRUNE THE CURRANT AND GOOSEBERRY FOR PROFIT.

The method I use in pruning the currant, and which will apply to the gooseberry as well, differs in one respect from the usual advice given in the columns of the horticultural journals of the day, viz.: that of cutting back the new growth of the terminal branches about one-half, which will give all the following advantages over the old system of pruning, which was simply to cut out old useless wood, and thin out that which remained.

THESE ADVANTAGES ARE:—

1st. Strong, healthy growth at the top of the bush, where we want it, and

not in an increased number of suckers or sprouts at the bottom.

2nd. Rank foliage, that will remain all season to protect the fruit from sun scalding, and also prolonging the picking and marketing season.

3rd. Larger fruit and longer bunches, for the reason that all the short bunched small currants are produced at or near the terminal buds, and these being pruned off, leave only the best to be developed, and as it is a well known fact that the production of seed is the cause of exhaustion of the plant, therefore small currants produce just as much seed as large, and these being pruned off, relieve the bush of its greatest burden or cause of exhaustion.

4th. Regular bearing, for a strong, healthy bush is always able to bear its load of fruit, because, with this mode of pruning and its advantages, the bush grows stronger every year, and with these come

5th. Other advantages, such as very large bushes with fruit further from the ground, and consequently not liable to get splashed with dirt, and being able to grow very large plants less plants are required to the acre, and will do best planted not less than 5 x 5 feet, or 6 x 6 feet, when horse cultivation can be used both ways, and thus save a great deal of hand labor.

6th. By this mode of pruning, all the medium sized varieties may be made to produce almost as large fruit as the cherry currant.

7th. Currant plantations will last 20 years or more, because the vitality and vigor are always kept up.

And while I could name other advantages for this method of pruning, I have only to say that I have tried it on an acre of different varieties, and others have tried the same, and we have all had results more satisfactory than was anticipated. I believe that