

5. Should there be any dust or spray material upon the apples when picked, it is much easier to take it off at that time. If the apples are allowed to stand they acquire a certain gumminess that renders it difficult to make them look clean.

6. Box packing is the repetition of the same motions many hundred times a day. If, therefore, even one unnecessary motion is made with each specimen, it becomes a serious handicap in a day's work.

THE PACKING OF PEARS.

The Canadian apple box has proved too large a package for pears, but there is no uniformity in the pear boxes in actual use. The British Columbia package corresponds closely to the package used in the North-western States. A number of shippers in St. Catharines, Ont., use a box much smaller than the apple box. For the most part, however, Canadian pears are shipped to market in 11 quart baskets. The 11 quart basket has proved itself an excellent package for the local markets. It holds a reasonable quantity of fruit and, where care is taken, can be packed so as to present a very attractive appearance. It is conveniently retailed and ships well for short distances. Something might be said for it even for long distances, if the shippers would only take the trouble to deck the ears.

The method of packing the basket commonly used is simply a 'jumble' pack; that is, the baskets are filled without any regularity whatever, and covered with a lino cover. A few of the better growers have discovered that the basket can be packed with regular packs almost as conveniently as a box and that not only are the carrying qualities of the fruit enhanced, but the basket presents a much more pleasing appearance. Pears will repay wrapping and no regular packing, either in baskets or boxes, is complete without the wrapping.

The ideal package for pears will, in all probability, be a half box, somewhat shorter than our standard apple box, practically such as is used by the Californian trade.

There is less variation in the commercial sizes of pears than in apples. Consequently the number of packs actually used is less and there are few calls for anything but the ordinary 2-3 pack. The elongated form of the pear indicates very clearly that the tail of the wrap should always be over the stem end. In beginning the 2-3 pack, the calyx end will be placed against the end of the box. The second row, of course, will be placed with the stem end toward the packer and so continued to the upper end of the box. The fullness of the box is quite easily secured by packing tighter or looser as in the case of apples. Occasionally a small sized pear will pack very conveniently in what might be called a loose offset, made by placing one pear in the left hand corner of the box, and then dividing the space evenly by three other pears. Of course, the same precautions are taken to pack with the calyx end to the box.

Practically all the general instruction given with reference to apple packing and packages applies to pears. The same care must be given to handling, grading, packing and marking packages, but of course there are many things in the growing and marketing peculiar to each fruit. These are not touched in this bulletin.

PACKING FOR EXHIBITION.

Horticultural exhibitions of late years are making a feature of commercial packages and the score cards adopted by these exhibitions bring out prominently the essential features of good and bad packing and packages.

The Fruit Division, soon after its formation, issued a score card to the various fair managers in the Dominion, with the hope of securing some uniformity in the methods of judging fruit. This served a useful purpose,