

APPENDIX No. 2

see how early they will start. If we planted the seed now it would lie in the ground all summer and not germinate.

Q. In the case of plums do you take the seed out of the pulp?

A. Sometimes we do. It depends usually upon whether we have time or not.

Q. And do you cover it right over with soil?

A. Yes, cover it right over with soil about one inch in depth.

Q. At one time we had in the Ottawa valley plums of a very fine quality, but nowadays we hardly see any at all?

A. That is due to blight. The correct name is Spot or Blight of the Native Plums (*Cladosporium carpophilum*.)

Q. Was that due to bringing across that Russian plum, or some other variety, and experimenting with it so that we lost our own native type?

A. No, that is not the reason. Their disappearance is the effect of disease which which has spread all through the wild plum in this district. It can be prevented by spraying with Bordeaux mixture. We have an example of the benefit of that in the case of Mr. Carstesen, a grower at Billing's Bridge, who has 400 plum trees. I understand he sprays thoroughly with Bordeaux mixture and although the trees on the fence rows are useless, the rest of his trees are quite good.

Q. Is it true that by experimenting with a Japanese plum we ruined our own fruit?

A. No, it had no effect on our own fruit at all.

Q. That is the common statement?

A. There is nothing in it at all.

By Mr. Pickup:

Q. Some fruit trees blossom out and never produce any fruit. What would be the reason of that?

A. There are two or three reasons for that. For instance, cherries in this district—

Q. These are apple trees?

A. There are two or three reasons. The principal reason is that it has been found that some apple trees are self-sterile—that is, they are sterile if pollenized by their own pollen and it is necessary to have other trees that will furnish the pollen.

Q. I noticed in this orchard a few trees that will produce apples, but the balance have never produced?

A. Yet they bloom.

Q. Yes, they blossom very freely?

A. That is probably the reason.

Q. The idea would be to plant some other tree?

A. Yes.

POLLINATION OF APPLES.

It is now known that the cause of the unproductiveness of some varieties of apples when planted in large blocks by themselves is often due to either complete or partial self-sterility of the blossoms. It has also been found that varieties self-sterile in themselves will, if planted near each other, be cross-fertilized, if the two varieties bloom at the same time, and fruit will set on both kinds. As it has been found that a variety which is self-sterile in one locality is not necessarily so in another, it is impossible to give an accurate or complete list of those which are self-sterile and those which fertilize themselves. The relative blossoming periods of the different varieties of apples, however, are fairly regular in the provinces of Ontario and Quebec, and by planting those kinds which bloom about the same time it is not absolutely necessary to know whether a variety is self-sterile or not. For five years observations on the dates of blossoming of varieties of apples were made by persons in various