

are fully considered success is doubtful. Plums are propagated either naturally, by seed, or artificially by bud or graft. Seedling trees are grown either to obtain new varieties or stocks for budding and grafting. Species that reproduce themselves from pits are not common, and our knowledge with respect to their merits as stocks for propagating the different varieties is very limited. The Cherry, a small red Plum, and the Canada or Wild Plum, for small sized trees make very good stocks, the latter in good soil grow extremely fast, and can be worked either at the root or at the collar; the former is generally used for Dwarf Standards or Pyramids. Stocks for strong growing Standards are difficult to get. Pits taken promiscuously are generally useless—that is, they are not to be relied upon. The seeds should be procured from vigorous growing trees, and from a species that reproduces itself from seed. The Horse Plum, an old settler, that has been in the country for generations, is reproductive, and a rapid grower—in strong ground it attains to large size—for cabinet and fancy work the wood is both ornamental and durable. The Magnum Bonum is another reliable variety, and is readily propagated by root cuttings. As Standards for a plantation it is considered best to set them out at two years from the bud or graft, if any should fail from unexpected causes they are more readily re-placed, and a greater uniformity maintained. For special reasons the length of the stem should be duly considered, and not left to chance. The height of the stem at which the head should be allowed to form is a matter of opinion. Some Fruit Growers advocate low heads, others prefer sufficient height to admit the operation of ploughing close to the tree. This latter would appear the most desirable, and is generally adopted, without regard to situation, by persons whose knowledge of Fruit culture is limited to one or two species—their motto is, “prune-up” instead of down. If the land is thoroughly prepared in the out-set, the services of the plough may be dispensed with, and the soil round the tree kept in order by a frequent use of the cultivator and forked spade. If it is absolutely requisite to use a plough, small sized cattle, under good command, will be the most suitable team, and dispense with the use of whippetrees—the most objectionable of all trees in an orchard.

The frequent and sudden changes of temperature, from one extreme to another, for which our climate is noted, and its effect on fruit culture, can not always be provided against. The protection to the stem afforded by low branching trees is a very important advantage—and