

be allowed to grow to fill the trellis, say one foot apart, and all the rest rubbed off. These are tied from time to time to the upright wires through the summer, and the laterals pinched off beyond the second leaf. From two or four bunches of fruit will set on each of these upright vines; but two of the best should be allowed to grow. The rest should be pinched off when in blossom. The laterals should be pinched off at the same time; this causes the fruit to set full, and makes the bunches large and compact. The ground must be well tilled, and every thing done at the right time through the summer. This will insure a small crop of about six pounds of superb fruit to each vine.

#### When to Pick.

If Isabellas, be sure to let them hang on the vine till fully ripe, which will be toward the last of October. Pick them when dry and lay them in boxes holding about one bushel each, made of lath open on the bottom and sides. These boxes are placed in a safe, dry place, where the air can freely circulate through the fruit. As soon as the stems are dry; they are ready for market. They should then be looked over, packed in paper boxes, and shipped to market as before described. Fruit grown, picked and packed in this way, will always command the highest price in market, and pay the grower a great profit.

#### Pruning for Next Year's Crop.

The last of November the vines are pruned for the next year's crop. To do this properly, every other upright is cut back to one bud above the base vine; and the others at the top wire of the trellis, if strong enough; if not, shorten in proportion to their size, and cut all the laterals close to the uprights. These are the bearing canes for next year's crop. The trellis and vines should be laid down, and put up in the spring, as before described.

#### First Pruning the Fourth year.

The first pruning the fourth year should be at the time the fruit is in bloom. Then all the laterals should be pinched off, at the third leaf beyond the further bunch of fruit. One vine only must be allowed to grow from each of the spurs on the base vine. All the others should be rubbed off. The fruit must be thinned to two bunches on each lateral. This will make all the fruit the vine should be allowed to bear this year. These new canes for next year's planting must be tied up to the upright wires from time to time, till they reach the top of the trellis, and the

laterals shortened, as before described. The laterals on the bearing canes may want shortening once or twice more during the summer, if inclined to make too much growth.

#### To get Well-Ripened Fruit.

Two things must always be well considered, and nicely adjusted, to insure a good crop of well-ripened fruit. The first is, to leave just as much fruit on the vines as they will develop to large, compact bunches, fully ripened. The other is, to so trim the vines, and at the proper time, as to fully set the fruit, make the bunches and berries large, and fully ripen the whole crop. If too much fruit is left on the vines, and they are too closely trimmed, the fruit cannot fully mature, because there is not foliage enough left on the vines to ripen it. On the other hand, if the vines are not trimmed at all, the berries mostly drop off, leaving the bunches small, and loose, and but little fruit on the vines, and that quite poor and uneven. I have grown, and have seen in other grounds, the best fruit on vines trimmed as here described.

The crop this year will amount to from 15 to 20 pounds to the vine, or from 4,000 to 6,000 pounds to the acre. In trimming the vines this fall, the bearing canes must be cut back to near the base vines, and the new canes, for bearing next year, at the top of the trellis, and all the laterals close, and the vines laid down for the winter, as before.

The trimming, and renewal for bearing wood, should be the same for the fifth year and each year thereafter, as described for the fourth year. The fifth year the vines will be in full bearing, and will produce, if rightly tilled, thinned and pruned, from 7,000 to 10,000 pounds of large, handsome, well-ripened fruit to the acre, worth to the grower from \$300 to \$1,200, according to variety and demand.

#### Garden Culture and Fertilizers.

"With a good situation, the secret and success with garden crops lies in the richness of its soil, and in its depth and fine tilth, the last being far oftener wanting than the former. What is true of garden is true also of its fertilizers: they must be triturated, fine, easily digestible. Masses of unbroken farm-yard material are no more suited to the delicate organization of garden plants than the roasted side of bacon is suited to a child's diet.—*Mitchell.*