

Millet for Soiling and Hay.

It is not yet too late to sow millet. Though generally sowed before the first of July, any time within a fortnight is not too late, providing that the ground be in good order. It is better to sow thick than otherwise. If sown thin the stems are apt to grow coarse and be of less value for hay or soiling, while thick sowing will secure a thick, close braird that will grow up like luxuriant grass, and will be relished by cattle and eaten without leaving behind strong, coarse stalks. Millet has become generally known to farmers from its having been occasionally grown in the country for some years, but we doubt if its value for stock feeding is appreciated as it should be. There are few forage plants that give for a few months' growth so great a quantity of feed from the same area. If the ground be well prepared, it will produce two and a half to three tons of hay, and it has been known to produce five tons. In a course of soiling it may be grown on ground from which a crop of oats and peas has been cut for soiling, thus giving an opportunity of growing from the same plot two forage crops in a season. Fertile soil and thorough culture are required to produce a heavy crop.

Millet seed was in the early days of agriculture ranked among breadstuffs, and it is even now made into bread in Italy and Germany. As such it is very nutritious, though dark in color. In America the grain is used for feeding poultry, and many farmers grind it and feed it to their other live stock, considering it fully equal to corn for feeding purposes. The purpose for which we have sowed it and would recommend it to others is for feeding farm stock, either cut green for soiling or saved as hay. It is not suitable for sowing grass with, as it smothers any vegetation beneath or among it. This property has, however, its advantage, as it is very destructive to weeds.

Hungarian grass differs little from millet; it is fully as productive, and requires the same treatment. The seed is said to be somewhat darker than that of the millet, but both make a luxuriant growth under favorable circumstances, and both are valuable as forage crops. German millet is said to be superior to the variety we have been in the habit of using. Millet and Hungarian grass are easily saved for hay. They require to be cut when yet green, while they contain the succulency to which they owe much of their valuable properties for fodder.

The Sherbrooke Meat Company—The Advantage of Feeding Well-bred Stock.

The Sherbrooke Meat Company is doing a large business. They are at present slaughtering from 250 to 300 head weekly, and their expenditure in purchases and wages amounts to a considerable sum. They are expending at the rate of \$1,600,000 annually for cattle alone. They are not limiting their purchases to the immediate vicinity, or even to the Eastern Townships or the Province. The demand for fat cattle caused by the operations of the company has led the farmers there to increase the price of the animals, and the consequence has been that the purchasers have looked abroad for beeves in order to carry out their undertaking, and are importing them from Chicago. They have already imported some car loads, which are said to be superior to those raised in the townships—superior in quality, grades and well fed. It was rumored that they were importing Texas cattle, but this they deny most positively. They say, indeed, that Texas cattle would be wholly unfit for their trade—that the animals for their slaughtering and packing must be of prime quality, their shipments being to Europe, chiefly to France.

This is another demonstration of the advantage of feeding well-bred stock; they may be but grades, but they must be grades at least. Unless bred from pure-bred stock, their meat will be inferior in quality, and not suited for the highest paying markets. As is the case with the Sherbrooke Company, so must it be with all others preparing and shipping meat for Europe. The best bred and highest fed animals will command ready sale at the highest prices, while the old-time stock will be a mere drug in the market.

Orchard and Garden.—No. 5.**HINTS FOR JULY, BY H. ORTL.**

Summer Pruning.—The early part of this month is a good time to thin out and prune trees that have been neglected in the spring. In fact we consider it almost the best time, as the sap is now thickening, and any cuts or incisions made in the tree rapidly heal over. The one objection to summer pruning is that the branches have fruit on and no one cares to cut it off.

Crooked Trees can be easily straightened, or a good deal towards it, by bending and tying up firmly to stakes for the purpose.

Suckers from the roots and on the trunk should be removed, especially on dwarf trees.

In the nurseries now the operation called healing will be going on or finished, according to locality. This consists in cutting back that part of the stock left on for the purpose of tying up the young buds when far enough grown, so as to make them grow straight and prevent the possible danger of being blown off by wind or rubbed off while weeding, cultivating, etc. This operation requires a little skill and care, so as not to cut off the young bud now about to be turned out on its own "hook," and yet make a smooth, even cut, that will leave no snag to dry up and prevent the bark from healing over evenly.

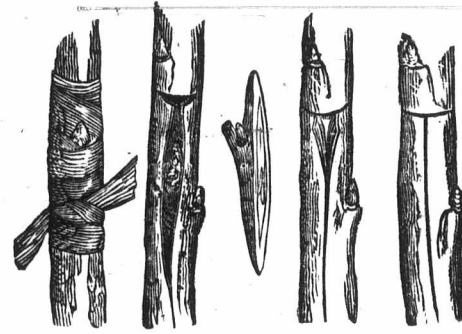


Fig. 5. Fig. 4. Fig. 1. Fig. 3. Fig. 2.

Budding is the best system for the propagation of all kinds of fruit trees, and is one of the most important operations in the nursery. Budded trees, as a rule, are straighter and more thrifty than those grown from grafts. The season for budding extends from the middle of July till September, or as long as the bark peels easily and without tearing. To succeed you must have the stock in the condition of completing its growth, but not too ripe, and your cion in the same medium condition, so that they will unite readily and the bud will mature plump and firm; sometimes the warm rains of September will start the bud to grow, which is very apt to be winter killed.

Cut the bud off as illustrated in fig. 1; it would be better to be a quarter of an inch longer at each end than that shown in the cut. Cut the bark on the stock in the T manner shown in fig. 2, and open the corner edges with end of your budding knife, as in fig. 3. Then evenly and gently insert your bud underneath the bark in the position of fig. 4. Finish with tying firmly with bassmatt, leaving bud exposed as in fig. 5, and the operation is over. From two to three weeks will be suffi-

ent to leave the string on, when it should be removed and all dead buds taken out and fresh ones inserted in another position.

Roses, Chestnuts, Maples, and a host of ornamental trees, may thus be indefinitely multiplied, and great pleasure and satisfaction may be derived from this method of propagating.

Layering should now be done, and is an easy method to propagate the general run of flowering shrubs, roses, gooseberries, grape vines, &c. Loosen the ground around the plant intended to be layered; bend down a shoot of this season's growth; make tongue with knife on the upper side of the shoot; lay it on the place hollowed out of the loosened soil; peg it down to keep it in position, and then cover over with from two to three inches of soil. The addition of a little sand materially helps the rooting. Plants of a hard wooded, pithy nature like the rose will require tonguing while the grape and others may simply be twisted or sharply bent, which will be quite sufficient to ensure their rooting, providing the ground is mellow and moist. Layers should be mulched. Insects will be troublesome this month, especially the pear slug. Sprinkling the foliage with Hellebore and water will prove efficacious.

Cherries, Currants, Gooseberries and Raspberries will be ripening this month, and parties having these growing, if not familiar with the names of the varieties they have, should make it a point to get posted. Also make notes of the qualities such, as their hardiness, productiveness, and how profitable for market purposes. This information collected and distributed, by the usual channels of information, over the country, would be of great value to the intending planter and the nurserymen, who would each, respectively, know what to plant and to grow. And this applies to every variety of fruit grown. Especially would this knowledge be valuable for localities north and east of Toronto, and away from water influence.

Grape Vines should be thinned out to allow of the proper ripening of the fruit; and lateral shoots pinched back within two or three buds of the fruit bunches; this greatly improves the size of the berry and induces earlier ripening.

Examine your plum trees for any indications of black-knot, which promptly remove with knife on first appearance. Red and blue kinds are the most troubled, while green and yellow almost enjoy exemption.

Fire blight on the pear should be removed on first appearance. Cut off an inch or two below the affected part, no matter how large the branch. Half a loaf is better than no bread.

Flower Beds and Borders will require frequent hoeings. The looser the soil, the greater the continuance and display of flower and foliage.

Seeds of herbaceous plants should be sown as soon as ripened in some favored spot. August will be time enough for the general sowing, and plants can be raised sufficiently large for transplanting either in October or in Spring.

Many of the Herbaceous plants, such as Phloxes, Delphiniums, &c., give quite a succession of bloom late in the season, if you will remove the original flower stalk a few inches below the bottom florets, as soon as it commences to fade. This will force a lateral growth, which will produce flowers; otherwise the plant would merely ripen its seeds as soon as the first flowers were off.

Summer Culture of Root Crops.

To the root crop we always look for a profit beside that directly derived from the crop itself. It is true it is a remunerative crop, even were there no additional gain from its cultivation, enabling us to bring our farm stock through the winter in the best condition and at the least cost. But

were it other value, the of would make labor and oc every acre o the farmer is he considers alone worth a source of the refer at pres bare fallow, the fallow much to cov farm of equa has been wel naked fallow render the s weeds. Bu benefits, fol must throu rows. We merely for crops of gr and grass in nothing wil The ground fall—the s rounded as frost, and t cleaned and mant water. lowed up. a root in th suffered to horse-hoe sh seed sown will have ar crops will r

A glorio warm July his annual down upon tity. Enjo of the old breathes fr that are p the hot br Now the is covered growing cr unlimited of the fruit ness, but i Later in t the well-la fields of g of harvest

But we t try and t in the field of work o every hour toil. Inte holiday w essential a proverb h and no pla Of our care of the tor and, v allowed to out" is ap our crops cultivation. Weeds are and absor